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As two ex-ministers lead mounting revolt and Whitehall insider tells Mail row is 'distracting' from mini-Budget's benefits...

ARE TORIES ON BRINK OF 45p TAX U-TURN?

By **Jason Groves, Tom Witherow**
and **Kumail Jaffer**

TWO former ministers led a mounting Tory revolt over the plan to scrap the 45p tax rate last night amid speculation the Government could U-turn on the move.

Michael Gove sparked a backlash from fellow Tories yesterday as he called for Liz Truss and Kwasi Kwarteng to ditch the plan to abolish the 45p tax rate.

As the row threatened to overshadow the Conservative Party conference, former transport secretary Grant Shapps last night echoed Mr Gove's comments, saying the move to abolish the rate was 'tin eared'.

A defiant Mr Kwarteng is today expected to use his first conference speech as Chancellor to pledge to 'stay the course' with his plans, saying that years of economic policy consensus have left Britain in a state of 'slow, managed decline' that must be reversed.

However, last night speculation was mounting that he and Miss Truss could perform a U-turn and ditch the 45p policy – the price of shoring up Tory support for the rest of the mini-Budget measures. A senior Whitehall insider told the Daily Mail: 'The 45p row is becoming a massive distraction which

Turn to Page 6

ROYAL BOOK SENSATION



**Why Harry snubbed William's
secret offer to heal rift**

PAGES
24-25

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Solution on Mail Puzzles
back page



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'Eco' power station in tree-felling storm

By **Sophie Huskisson**
Health Reporter

BRITAIN'S largest renewable power station is cutting down carbon-rich forests while receiving billions in green-energy subsidies from UK taxpayers, an investigation claims.

Panorama tonight reports how Drax, which generates 12 per cent of the UK's renewable electricity by burning wood pellets at its Yorkshire power station, bought logging licences to cut down two areas of forest in western Canada.

The company claims it only used leftover sawdust and waste wood from the forests but the BBC film, titled *The Green Energy Scandal Exposed*, shows logs from the forest being loaded on to a Drax truck and then unloaded at one of its pellet plants.

The programme says that Drax's power station burned more than seven million tonnes of imported wood pellets last year and that documents on a Canadian forestry database show that only 11 per cent of logs delivered to two of its pellet plants are the small, twisted or rotten timber the company says it uses.

Drax has already received £6 billion in green energy subsidies even though burning wood gives off more greenhouse gases than burning coal, Panorama emphasised.

The two areas of environ-

Wood-fired plant that takes billions in green handouts 'is hacking down Canadian forest'



Burning questions: The Drax Power Station in Yorkshire

mentally important forest – in the Canadian province of British Columbia – where Drax bought logging licences have never been logged before.

One of the sites includes large areas that have been identified as rare, old-growth forest. Drax's own responsible sourcing policy says it 'will avoid damage or disturbance' to primary and old-growth for-

est. However, satellite pictures show Drax is now cutting down this forest, according to the BBC.

The company told Panorama that logging at this site would reduce the risk of wildfires.

The second Drax logging licence is for a mature primary forest that has now been cut down. Drax told the BBC it hadn't cut down

the forest itself but transferred the logging licences to other companies.

However, the authorities in British Columbia confirmed to Panorama that Drax still holds the licences.

Drax later admitted to Panorama that it did use logs from the forest to make wood pellets, claiming they were species the timber industry didn't want.

The company also said the sites identified by Panorama weren't primary forest because they were near roads, yet the BBC pointed out that there is no mention of proximity to roads in the United Nations'

'Avoid damage or disturbance'

definition of primary forest. A Drax spokesman told the BBC that 80 per cent of material in its Canadian pellets is sawmill residuals, which would be disposed of anyway.

Last week it emerged that Drax had quietly agreed to pay out millions of dollars to settle air-pollution claims against its wood-pellet factories in the United States, according to an investigation by Unearthed, Greenpeace's investigative unit.

A Drax spokesman said: 'Drax does not harvest forests and has not taken any material directly from the two areas the BBC has looked at.'

■ *Panorama: The Green Energy Scandal Exposed* is on BBC1 at 8pm tonight

Anger at Lords bid for MP in VIP abuse row

HOUSE of Lords chiefs have been urged to block a fresh peerage bid for the Labour politician who pushed false claims of a VIP paedophile ring.

An application has been made for ex-Labour deputy leader Tom Watson to be given a seat in the upper house, just two years after he was first nominated.

The House of Lords Appointments Com-

By **Martin Beckford**
Policy Editor

mission is under pressure to reject him again from the Opposition's latest honours list because of his involvement in the scandal of false child abuse claims.

Its chairman Lord Bew has been told by Tory MP Harvey Proctor, one of the victims of Scotland Yard's disastrous Opera-

tion Midland, that Mr Watson has made 'no genuine apology to those his actions damaged, including myself'.

Mr Watson shocked the Commons in 2012 by claiming there had been a 'powerful paedophile network linked to Parliament and No 10' in the 1980s. It emerged the claims were fantasies of hoaxer Carl Beech, also known as 'Nick'. Mr Watson, now head of trade body UK Music, said in a TV interview he was 'very sorry on many levels'.

Last night, the House of Lords Appointments Commission, Labour and Mr Watson declined to comment.

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PUGH IS AWAY

INSIDE: Weather 10, Puzzles 35-38, TV 44-47, Oscar Cainer 48, Letters 51, City & Finance 64

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Hey Miss Jagger, the 70s want their boots back!



THE last time they were in fashion, she was not even a twinkle in her father's eye.

But Georgia May Jagger, 30, pulled off the tricky task of modelling a towering pair of platform boots with the aplomb of Sir Mick in his 1970s heyday. Indeed, the crocodile skin-style boots – worn for the Vivienne Westwood show at Paris Fashion Week – could have given another giant of 70s style, Sir Elton John, a run for his money.

Crocodile rock: Georgia May Jagger survives the catwalk in platforms for the Vivienne Westwood show

Rock chic: Georgia May Jagger in Paris at the weekend. Inset: A young Elton John

For hire, your new winter wardrobe from John Lewis

WHEN John Lewis launched a trial two years ago allowing customers to rent furniture, almost its entire collection was hired within 48 hours.

So in the spirit of reusing and recycling, the retailer is trying the same trick again with a new rental service – and this time a new wardrobe is up for grabs.

John Lewis is aiming to win a slice of the booming rental clothing market, which is expected to be worth £2.3 billion by 2029.

The 'dress for hire' service, being launched today, involves customers paying a fee to rent an item – perhaps for a special occasion – for up to 20 days.

Marks & Spencer similarly launched a dress rental service last winter. It comes at a time when shoppers are cutting back their spending on clothes amid the cost of living squeeze, and as research highlights the environmental impact of fast fashion.

John Lewis, which hopes to encourage 'a more sustainable way of shopping', is partnering with rental specialist Hurr, an online platform that allows users

By Sean Poulter
Consumer Affairs Editor

to rent a Chanel minidress for £51 or a Balenciaga bag for £130.

The platform, which works with a large number of designers and fashion chains, also allows individuals to make extra cash by renting out their own designer pieces. On the Hurr website, Prada is one of the most rented luxury brands with an average retail value of £1,200, but an average rental price of £100.

Notable advocates of the dress rental trend include Carrie John-

'Sustainable way of shopping'

son, who opted to hire her wedding dress when she married Boris Johnson last year. The designer dress, which was reportedly rented for £45, would have cost £2,870 to buy.

In 2020, John Lewis launched a similar partnership allowing customers to rent furniture including bed frames, bar stools and statement sofas, with prices starting at £17 a month for a desk or chair rented for a year

and rising for larger goods. And earlier this year, the retailer announced its subscription service for rented children's clothes. It allows parents to hire up to seven items at any one time, which can then be swapped for a new design or bigger size.

The latest scheme, which will loan a range of brands currently available at its department stores, comes after John Lewis's half-year results showed the cost of living crunch is affecting customers' spending patterns.

Pippa Wicks, John Lewis's executive director, said: 'John Lewis Rental allows our customers to experiment with fashion they love without it having to cost the earth.'

The minimum rental fee is £20 and customers can browse the collection online and choose to rent an outfit for four, eight, ten or 20 days. They arrive with a return bag and pre-paid label and are sent back to Hurr, which will have them dry cleaned.

John Lewis said research shows the UK buys more clothes per person than any other country in Europe and that the wider fashion industry accounts for 8-10 per cent of annual global carbon emissions.



Pope tells Putin: Stop this spiral of violence and death

By **Inderdeep Bains**
Deputy Chief Reporter

POPE Francis yesterday implored Vladimir Putin to stop the 'spiral of violence and death' in Ukraine as he decried the 'absurd' risk of a nuclear war.

The pontiff made his strongest plea over the seven-month conflict as he delivered his Angelus address to thousands of worshippers in St Peter's Square in the Vatican City.

He appealed for an immediate ceasefire to end the 'grave situation', citing Mr Putin's leadership directly for the first time. This terrible, inconceivable wound of humanity, instead of healing, continues to shed even more blood, risking to spread further,' the pontiff said.

'That humanity again finds itself before the threat of atomic war is absurd. I deeply deplore the grave situation that has arisen in recent days, with further actions contrary to the principles of international law. It increases the risk of

'Risk of nuclear escalation'

nuclear escalation, giving rise to fears of uncontrollable and catastrophic consequences worldwide.'

The Pope said: 'My appeal is addressed first and foremost to the president of the Russian Federation, imploring him to stop this spiral of violence and death, also for the sake of his own people.'

He called on Ukraine's president Volodymyr Zelensky to 'be open to serious proposals to peace' and urged all international leaders to do everything they could to avoid 'dangerous escalation'.

His plea comes as one of Putin's closest allies called for nuclear strikes after Ukraine recaptured the key town of Lyman on Saturday. The defeat came just a day after Putin proclaimed the annexation of nearly a fifth of Ukraine, including Donetsk where Lyman is located.

In a video address, Mr Zelensky vowed: 'Over the past week, the number of Ukrainian flags in Donbas has increased. There will be

even more in a week's time.' Kyiv's recent successes have infuriated Putin and raised concerns over Russian escalation. Ramzan Kadyrov, leader of Russia's southern Chechnya region, wrote: 'More drastic measures should be taken, right up to the declaration of martial law in the border areas and the

use of low-yield nuclear weapons.' It comes as Danish authorities said that the Russian-built Nord Stream 1 and 2 gas pipelines had stopped leaking following underwater explosions last week.

Suspensions were raised it was Russian sabotage to put pressure on the West over energy supplies.

Yesterday Defence Secretary Ben Wallace told the Conservative Party conference that Britain will acquire two specialist ships 'to keep our cables and pipelines safe'.

■ In a move that could trigger more fury in Moscow, nine European Nato states yesterday backed Ukraine's latest bid to join the alli-

ance. The presidents of the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Poland, Romania and Slovakia said in a joint statement: 'We do not recognise and will never recognise Russian attempts to annex any Ukrainian territory.'

Dominic Lawson - Page 16

Flying the flag, Miss Ukraine's marathon glory

By **Andy Jehring**

A FORMER Miss Ukraine crossed the finish line of the London Marathon yesterday draped in her nation's flag.

Viktoriia Kiose, 29, ran the gruelling 26.2 miles alongside her fiancé Kostiantyn Bidnenko and finished in under four hours.

The couple, who fled their homeland last

'You hear the support'

February and have lived here since May, ran to raise money for United24, a Ukrainian foundation. 'When you hear people support you and scream the name of your country, you feel a responsibility not only for yourself, but for your country and people too,' said

Mr Bidnenko, whose partner was Miss Ukraine 2017.

Footballers Jill Scott, Ellen White and Leah Williamson sounded the klaxon to start the event. Among the 42,000 runners were Olympian James Cracknell, 50, BBC newsreader Sophie Raworth, 54, DJ Chris Evans, 56, and McFly's Harry Judd, 36.

The marathon will reclaim its usual slot in April next year, having moved to October due to Covid. The men's race was won by Amos Kipruto in two hours, four minutes and 39 seconds. In the women's race, Yalemzerf Yehualaw won in two hours, 17 minutes and 26 seconds.



Proud: Miss Kiose holds her flag before the race begins

Glitz: As Miss Ukraine 2017



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Moors landowner's vow to find body of Brady victim 60 years later

EXCLUSIVE

By **Rebecca Camber**
Crime and Security Editor

THE owner of the land where police are searching for Keith Bennett told yesterday how he promised the schoolboy's dying mother Winnie he would never stop looking for him.

Chris Crowther, 65, said he hoped the body of the 12-year-old Moors murder victim would finally be found.

Greater Manchester Police launched a dig on his land on Friday after an amateur sleuth found suspected human remains.

Mr Crowther shares author Russell Edwards' theory that serial killer Ian Brady meticulously planned the burials, placing his female victims on one side of the A635 road and the boys on the other.

Yesterday the farmer revealed for the first time that he too could have

'I never forgot their eyes'

fallen victim to the Moors Murders, who killed five children. He described how Brady pulled up beside him outside his school in 1963 as he and Myra Hindley were embarking on their killing spree.

Speaking for the first time about the chilling encounter, Mr Crowther said: 'I can always remember waiting for a taxi from St Mary's Primary School in [the nearby village of] Greenfield at about 3.30pm and Brady stopped by the side of me and looked straight at me as I was waiting for a taxi to come home.'

'I ran back into school. Those scary eyes, they were looking straight at me. My mother said never speak to strangers.'

'I had that drummed into me so I ran back into school. He just stopped and stared, but I moved away quite quickly.'

'I told my mum and dad there was a man watching me at the side of the road. I was about six.'

Months later he was to encounter Brady again on the moors. He said: 'I was walking back some sheep with my dad Harold and they [Hindley and Brady] were canoodling on a rock, and my dad went mad - he told them to go home.'

'It was shearing time in 1963. I never forgot his face when he looked at my dad.'

'I never forget their eyes, such scary eyes. Myra had a leopard-print coat on, he had his long mac on.'

'It was below the farm on the south side, it was within half a mile of the graves. They were only about 20 yards off away from us. I can always remember my dad going off on one, but Brady never spoke back.'

'I was about the same age as the other children being abducted.' The infamous murders on the 5,000 acres of land, owned by the Crowthers for generations, have left their



Scare: As a boy, farmer Chris saw both Brady and Hindley



Murdered: Keith Bennett was 12 when he was killed

mark on the family. He recalls that a family member was nine or ten when John Kilbride was found.

'They started saying, "I heard them. I heard them one night screaming for their life," he said. 'It affected them so badly we had to put them in hospital for about ten days to settle them down.'

'They always said that they heard those screams. They heard something up there anyway. It affected them very badly. Their nerves were shattered.' Police found the grave of 12-year-old John in October 1965 with the help of Mr Crowther's grandfather Dan.

The farmer said: 'My granddad was gathering some sheep up there and his dog

rolled on John Kilbride's grave. It would not stop rolling and so he went back with a police officer and saw the area and that is where they found John.'

Mr Crowther believes his mother Freda was also fol-

'Heard them screaming'

lowed by a man on the desolate moorland who resembled Brady. He said: 'She was going around the sheep at lambing time and he followed her right near where they found one of the bodies.'

'A strange man got behind her and she ran off home. It

New search: Police scour the moor with a drone in hunt for Keith Bennett's body



I promised Keith's dying mother I'd never stop looking for him

HAVE THEY FOUND KEITH AT LAST?

Saturday's Daily Mail

scared her so much she said she would never go back up there on her own.'

In 2015, when Mr Edwards asked if he could search the land for Keith, Mr Crowther agreed to help him in the hope of finally fulfilling the promise he made to the schoolboy's mother Winnie, who died in 2012.

He said: 'I'll be pleased if they find Keith because Winnie came up to see

me when she was pretty poorly with cancer. She came up for a cup of coffee and asked me to carry on looking for Keith.'

'She said, "When you are gathering sheep, keep looking, keep looking Chris, will you promise me you will keep looking?" I said, "Yeah every time I go out there, I'll look and see what I can see."

'I have always been looking ever since, just for something that was a clue to where Keith was. I've been looking for decades.'

'I always said Keith will not be so far away from John Kilbride. He'll have them both together somewhere. He put the girls together and he'll [have] put the lads together.'

'He had a burial spot where he got away with it with John. When I'm up there on the land it is a bit eerie.'

'I always think about it when I am up there. When you are up there with a victim of the Moors murders, it doesn't leave you. I just hope that they find him.'

B&CE

The B&CE Lump Sum Retirement Benefit scheme's annual summary funding statement is now available

The Trustee of the B&CE Benefits Scheme is pleased to advise members that the statement outlining the estimated funding position as at 31 March 2022 is now available.

You can view the statement at www.bandce.co.uk/statement or you can request a copy by calling B&CE on 0333 230 1368.

Police send up drone as search goes on

POLICE searching for the body of Moors murder victim Keith Bennett yesterday deployed a drone as they continued to investigate a report that the skeletal remains of a child had been found.

Forensics teams have been at an isolated spot on Saddleworth Moor since Friday morning after the Daily Mail revealed how a crime author had made the astonishing discovery of what

By **James Tozer**

experts believe is a child's upper jaw. Last night police said they were going to continue searching the spot 'for the foreseeable time' - but said 'no identifiable human remains' had been found.

Keith is the only victim out of the five murdered by Ian Brady and Myra Hindley around Manchester in the 1960s whose remains have not been located.

The dig began after author Russell Edwards assembled a team of experts.

Keith's 66-year-old brother Alan said there were 'hundreds of thoughts running through my mind'.

He added: 'I'm not saying there is nothing there, what I will say is that I, and many others are confused, to say the very least.' Mr Bennett said he believed Keith's remains would not be found at the site being excavated - but 'nobody can rule anything else out'.

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Kwasi: We'll get

Chancellor adamant his plan is only way to stop UK's 'managed decline'

THE Chancellor will today insist his plan for economic growth is the right one.

In a crucial speech, Kwasi Kwarteng will tell delegates at the Conservative Party conference in Birmingham: 'We must stay the course.'

Amid alarm at the fallout following his mini-Budget, he will say that a new approach was desperately needed to stop Britain falling out of the ranks of the top developed nations.

And he will promise an 'iron-clad commitment to fiscal discipline' after markets took fright at the lack of an immediate plan to fund his policies and absence of independent scrutiny.

Mr Kwarteng is expected to say: 'We must face up to the facts that for too long our economy has not grown enough. The path ahead of us was one of slow, managed decline. And I refuse

'Economy hasn't grown enough'

to accept that it is somehow Britain's destiny to fall into middle income status, or that the tax burden reaching a 70-year high is somehow inevitable.'

Pledging that his approach will deliver higher wages, more jobs and revenue to fund public services, he will declare: 'We must stay the course. I am confident our plan is the right one.'

Mr Kwarteng will tell the party faithful that the combination of skyrocketing energy bills, a 70-year high tax burden and 'painfully slow' building projects would cost livelihoods and communities. Instead, he will claim that his 'new economic deal for Britain', targeting 2.5 per cent GDP growth a year, will lead to a stronger NHS and better schools.

And he will insist his goal is still possible in the face of 'extreme volatility in global markets' and major currencies 'wrestling an incredibly strong US dollar' - countering criti-

By **Martin Beckford**
Policy Editor

cism that Britain alone is suffering economic turmoil.

Yesterday the fallout from the Chancellor's announcements ten days ago continued as it emerged he had attended a champagne reception with leading bankers, hedge fund traders and stockbrokers just hours afterwards.

Mr Kwarteng went to the Chelsea home of Tory donor Andrew Law on the night of his Commons statement, where wealthy guests encouraged him to keep going with his proposals, The Sunday Times revealed.

At least two leading hedge fund bosses described the Chancellor as 'a useful idiot' after the reception. Some attendees might have profited from the fall in the pound following the mini-Budget, the paper reported.

But Mr Kwarteng's presence at the event was defended by Tory party chairman Jake Berry, who was also invited. He said: 'What we heard there is support for the Government's wider plans for growth and, in truth, that event is just part of the normal sort of drumbeat of events leading ministers have with donors to political parties.'

He said it was a 'good thing' that political parties are not state-funded, and that donors have 'a great role to play in supporting British democracy'.

Mr Berry told Sky News: 'I can categorically rule out that in terms of the address he made to the group of people who were there... he did not give any insight into future plans. And I'm sure in terms of his private conversations he didn't give any.'

Liz Truss told the BBC: 'The Chancellor meets business people all the time, that's his job.' And a source close to the Chancellor dismissed any suggestion of impropriety, adding: 'Any suggestion attendees had access to privileged information is total nonsense.'



United front: Kwasi Kwarteng and Liz Truss at the conference yesterday



Criticism: Mr Gove yesterday

Continued from Page One

is drowning out all the other vital and urgent things in the Budget.'

In a pre-emptive strike yesterday, Mr Gove said it was 'not Conservative' to use 'borrowed money' to fund scrapping the 45p income tax rate. And Mr Shapps last night echoed his comments, saying the Government should not be handing 'big giveaways to those who need them least'.

Mr Gove's intervention has sparked disputed claims that he is acting as an outsider for Rishi Sunak, who he backed against Miss Truss in the Tory leadership race.

A string of other Sunak-supporting MPs spoke out against the Government's plan to axe the top tax rate after Mr Gove described it as 'a display of the wrong values'.

Writing in The Times today, Mr Shapps, who also backed Mr Sunak, said: 'This politically tin-eared cut, not even a huge revenue raiser

and hardly a priority on the prime ministerial to-do list, has managed to alienate almost everyone, from a large section of the Tory parliamentary party taken by surprise to the City traders who will actually benefit.'

Last night senior Tories warned that Mr Gove's actions could further damage the party, which is already trailing heavily behind Labour in the polls.

One No 10 insider described the former minister as 'deluded'.

Another ally said his decision to tour the conference criticising the Government's programme was 'massively unhelpful, but sadly not a surprise'.

Former Tory leader Sir Iain Duncan Smith accused Mr Gove of serial disloyalty, referring to his role in ousting Boris Johnson from No 10. He said: 'It's Sunday, the first day of conference for a new Tory leader and Michael

Gove is out there stabbing her in the back. Isn't getting rid of one prime minister enough for him?'

'Someone needs to confiscate his knives - he is a danger to people and to the party. He said he was leaving politics but it proved too good to be true and he's back again trying to destabilise a new PM.' The row came as:

■ Miss Truss admitted errors were made in the handling of the mini-Budget, saying ministers could have 'laid the ground' better, but insisted she will not change course.

■ Former minister Nadine Dorries accused Miss Truss of throwing Mr Kwarteng 'under a bus' by claiming he alone was responsible for the decision to scrap the 45p income tax rate.

■ The Prime Minister said she would ensure the state pension rises in line with inflation next year - but refused to make the same commitment for benefits.

■ Tory chairman Jake Berry warned that Conservative MPs voting against any aspect of the Budget would be suspended from the party.

■ Two senior Conservatives needed police escorts as they were heckled by protesters shouting 'Tories out' outside the conference yesterday.

Mr Kwarteng's surprise deci-

'Has alienated everyone'

sion to announce the end of the 45p tax rate in last month's emergency mini-Budget was a focal point for Tory critics of Miss Truss last night.

The Prime Minister yesterday said the controversial tax cut, saying was 'part of an overall package of making our tax system simpler and lower'. But she stressed it was a relatively minor

Britain booming



stressed it was a relatively minor Budget measure compared with the Energy Price Guarantee, which could end up costing £150 billion.

In an appearance on the BBC's Sunday With Laura Kuenssberg show, Mr Gove said it was one of a number of 'mistakes' made by the PM and Mr Kwarteng which had left him 'profoundly' concerned. Asked if he would vote for the mini-Budget if it remains unchanged, he suggested he would not, saying: 'I don't believe it's right.'

He continued his criticism during a series of other appearances on the conference fringe, saying: 'It's going to be very, very, very difficult to argue it's right to reduce welfare when we're also reducing tax for the wealthiest.'

A Tory source expressed frustration with Mr Gove's bid to encourage opposition to the tax cut, saying: 'When people have

seen the full package, including the supply side reforms to boost growth and the commitment to control debt, we are confident they will feel differently about this - provided they have not already had their heads turned.'

By last night around a dozen Conservative MPs had indicated they would vote against the 45p tax cut. Andrew Bowie, a former parliamentary aide to Theresa May, said Mr Gove was 'right' to describe the unfunded 45p tax cut as 'un-Conservative'.

A friend of Mr Gove denied he was attempting to undermine the Government, and insisted he was not acting on behalf of Mr Sunak or anyone else.

'He is just doing what he thinks is right. I think he is speaking for an awful lot of MPs, but he is not coordinating with anybody,' the source said.

Comment - Page 16



COMMENTARY
by **Daniel Johnson**

MICHAEL Gove is a brilliant man, a thoughtful Conservative and one of the most experienced people in British politics. So what was he thinking of yesterday when he trashed Liz Truss and Kwasi Kwarteng's policies on the BBC?

Not only did the veteran minister denounce his own Government's economic plans - pouring particular scorn on the abolition of the top rate of income tax - he even cast doubt on whether he will vote for the Chancellor's mini-Budget when it comes before the Commons.

All that was bad enough. But yesterday, there were reports that the Scotsman - who now finds himself on the backbenches after 12 years in a string of government posts - 'is planning to let off a few grenades' at fringe events at the Tory conference in Birmingham this week.

Here I must appeal to him directly. Michael, don't pull the pins on your grenades - or they'll blow up in your face.

I have known Michael Gove for 25 years, since we worked together at the Times newspaper, and I have followed his political career with admiration.

Unlike so many underachieving ministers, he has left an indelible mark on every department he has run, from prisons to the environment. My own children, like millions of others, benefited directly from his vital reforms as Education Secretary.

So I am the first to state how effective he can be. And that is what makes his current conduct so dangerous and so reckless. Mr Gove is alleged to be the ring-leader among a group of 'plotters' seeking to undermine Miss Truss's administration - and even bring about its end.

Let me remind you: Miss Truss has had her feet under the desk at No 10 for less than a month. Even to contemplate ousting her at this point is nothing short of demented. It would lodge in the public's mind the conviction that the Tories were mired in chaos. After four PMs in six years, to anoint a fifth would be suicidal.

Mr Gove may be a dangerous man to have as an enemy.

BUT he, of all people, is clever enough to realise that a party at war with itself can never expect to win. Mr Gove initially wanted the talented junior minister Kemi Badenoch to succeed Boris Johnson as leader. After Kemi was eliminated, he threw his weight behind the former Chancellor Rishi Sunak.

I profoundly disagreed with him on this.

I blame Sunak for letting inflation soar out of control thanks to his excessive spending during the pandemic, and I deplore the fact that this alleged Conservative hiked taxes to their highest level for 70 years.

But whatever your views on all

that, the result of the leadership race is clear. PM Truss beat Mr Sunak - fair and square. The party must now unite behind her - or face its own annihilation.

The markets have been up and down during the past 10 days. But I still believe that the PM and her Chancellor have got their priorities right.

Britain must once again become a low-tax, high-growth economy, or we will languish behind our competitors.

From Gordon Brown to the International Monetary Fund, the critics of 'Trussonomics' are almost all slavish followers of the lazy economic orthodoxy that has prevailed since the 2008 financial crash. All well and good - until you remember that our economy has been sluggish for virtually all that time.

I cannot believe that Mr Gove, who articulated the arguments for Brexit better than anyone, is truly afraid of bold and buccaneering economic policies - especially those, like removing the politically popular but economically stupid cap on bankers' bonuses, that are possible only because we left the EU.

Instead of calling such cuts 'a display of the wrong values', Mr Gove should be asking himself what they will achieve.

For an answer, he might look to America, where a number of conservatives, languishing under Joe Biden's wotist redistributive presidency, are hailing Mr Kwarteng's mini-Budget.

One of them is Arthur Laffer, 82, whose celebrated 'Laffer Curve' demonstrated the paradox that certain tax cuts can increase government revenue and thus pay for themselves.

Mr Laffer, known as 'the father of

Reaganomics', said yesterday: 'Your Prime Minister and your Chancellor of the Exchequer are doing the right thing, right away.'

And though it's too soon to be sure, Laffer may already be being vindicated: the pound has bounced back from the doldrums of last week and much of the market panic has subsided.

AND though the chattering classes may be shrieking about the 'tax cuts for the rich', nobody - least of all Mr Gove - is criticising the Government over the energy-bill price cap or for reversing Mr Sunak's hated hikes to National Insurance and corporation tax.

The truth, Michael should not need to be told, is 'Tina': there is no alternative.

The Labour Party has just put on a fine show of unity at its own conference, and Sir Keir Starmer - insofar as his inexpressive face reveals anything - is looking like a man who believes he can win.

The Tory 'plotters' do not want Sir Keir or his nightmarish Lib-Lab coalition anywhere near No 10. As Benjamin Franklin said of his fellow American revolutionaries: 'We must, indeed, all hang together - or, most assuredly, we shall all hang separately.'

If a week is a long time in politics, two years is a lifetime. The Tories can turn the economy round - and win in 2024.

But only if the likes of Michael Gove keep their grenades locked up in their political arsenals, instead of using them to blow up their own side.

■ Daniel Johnson is the editor of TheArticle.com

Ditch the grenades Michael, unity is essential



Truss: I failed to prepare ground for mini-Budget

LIZ Truss yesterday admitted that mistakes were made in the Government's market-spooking mini-Budget – but insisted she will not change course.

After the fiscal statement sent the pound plummeting, the Prime Minister conceded ministers could have done more to prepare the ground for the sweeping tax cuts.

But she stood by the package and its timing, despite the ensuing market turbulence and opinion poll fall for the Tories.

'I do want to say to people I understand their worries about what has happened this week,' she told the BBC's Sunday With Laura Kuenssberg yesterday.

'I do stand by the package we announced and I stand by the fact we announced it quickly, because we had to act.'

'But I do accept we should have laid the ground better... I have learnt from that and I will make sure that in future we do a better job of laying the ground.'

Miss Truss has come under fire from economists and Conservative MPs over the package – with particular anger at the decision to abolish the top 45p rate of income tax.

Furious backbenchers have accused the Government of failing to 'roll the pitch' ahead of the tax-cutting announcements, leaving the public feeling 'frightened instead of reassured'.

Even allies who want her to stick to her guns have demanded that the Government improve the way it communicates economic policy to voters.

One said: 'She has got to play the next few weeks a lot cleverer, and No 10 has got to be a lot cleverer and a lot more inclusive than they have been in the first few weeks. This is a problem of their own making.'

The Sunday-morning interview, which followed a series of grueling appearances on local BBC radio stations last week, came as the Conservative Party conference began in Birmingham.

After a tumultuous week, the Prime Minister addressed the issues that have left a cloud of controversy hanging over her early days in office:

By **Harriet Line**
Deputy Political Editor

with inflation – but refused to make the same commitment for benefits.

The Prime Minister confirmed that ministers are reviewing a commitment made by Boris Johnson to increase benefits in line with inflation next year – meaning claimants could see a real-terms cut to their payments.

She said: 'This is something the Department for Work and Pensions Secretary is looking at at the moment. So she [Chloe Smith] will make a determination on that and we will announce that this autumn.'

But Miss Truss was clear that state pensions would rise in line with inflation, saying: 'I've committed to the triple lock. Yes.'

The triple lock guarantees that the state pension will increase in line with inflation, earnings or 2.5 per cent – whichever is higher.

INTEREST RATES

Miss Truss tried to deflect blame for soaring mortgage bills, saying interest rates were a matter for the Bank of England.

Miss Kuenssberg suggested that the massive government package to help with sky-high energy bills was being wiped out by soaring mortgage rates after the mini-Budget.

But the PM replied: 'The interest rates are a key factor in mortgage rates and those are set by the Bank of England and they are somewhat dependent on the global market.'

'So Laura, we are not dealing with the issues we're dealing with in isolation, we're dealing with these issues in a world where there's a slowing global economy, where there are rising interest rates, where there is huge inflation, mainly driven by energy caused by Vladimir Putin's war.'

'And I as Prime Minister, and the Chancellor, have to deal with that in the way that we think will help people in Britain most get through these very, very difficult short-term circumstances, but put our country on the best long-term footing.'

AUSTERITY

The Prime Minister refused to rule out real-terms cuts to government departmental spending.

Miss Truss said she believes in 'outcomes rather than inputs'. She explained: 'I'm not going to write, you know, future budgets on your show, much as you'd like me to do, but the core principle I believe in is maximising growth in the economy.'

'That's why we're pulling all the levers on everything from making our tax system simpler and lower, to also getting projects done quicker, you know, driving reform in our economy as well as we make our public sector more efficient.'

'But I'm absolutely committed to delivering great public services for people – that is very, very important.'

She added: 'I believe in outcomes rather than inputs. I believe in what people see and what people feel.'

'So for example, the Health Secretary has committed that people will be able to see their GP within two weeks. And that's what we're focused on.'

'We're focused on how does it feel for a patient, you know, how does it feel for me as a woman walking down the street, do I feel safe at night?'

'Those are the things I'm thinking about as Prime Minister. And that's what we're focused on, delivering better public services.'

BLAMES KWARTENG

Miss Truss blamed Kwasi Kwarteng for the controversial decision to abolish the top 45p rate of income tax for the highest earners – and revealed she did not discuss the measure with the wider Cabinet.

'No, no, we didn't. It was a decision the Chancellor made,' she told Miss Kuenssberg.

Former culture secretary Nadine Dorries accused Miss Truss of failing to be loyal by 'throwing your Chancellor under a bus on the first day of conference'.

But a source close to the Chancellor, who will speak to the Birmingham conference hall today, said: 'The higher the tax, the more ways people seek to avoid them, work elsewhere, or simply work less.'

'As the PM said this morning, the 45p rate raises very little and makes our tax system more complicated. While the Chancellor obviously makes all tax decisions, the Prime Minister and Kwasi are in lockstep on this.'



HENRY DEEDES SKETCH

FOR someone who'd spent the past week being deafened by blood-curdling screams from the international markets, Liz Truss was looking remarkably resilient.

The hair was neat, the pose steady, the eyes crystalline and free from puff and bulge. Give it time, her harried predecessors in No 10 might say. In six months, those perky peepers will be drooping from their sockets like aspidochelons in a drought.

Fresh from her recent – and not entirely trouble-free – whistlestop tour of regional radio stations last week, the Prime Minister had agreed to appear on Laura Kuenssberg's newish BBC1 programme ahead of the Tory party conference in Birmingham.

Broadcast time was the ungodly hour of 8.30am. Is it me, or do these politics shows get earlier every year?

No sooner had Miss Kuenssberg begun to introduce her special guest when, zoik! The screen went dead. Had some fat-fingered studio grunt spilt their matcha latte over the control panel? Had the legions of crusty protesters milling around the conference found a plug to yank from the wall?

Either way, the watching millions of political geeks and Twitter warriors had about 30 seconds of agonised worry. The Beeb later blamed 'technical glitches' for the blackout.

BY the time the feed returned, Liz 'n' Laura were already hard at it discussing struggling households' budgets. Naturally, Chancellor Kwasi Kwarteng's recent fiscal bombshell was much-dissected. A squiggly graph was produced showing how much the cost of government borrowing had gone up since Kwasi delivered his mini-Budget and Britannia was unchained. Yikes: The line on this thing looked steeper than K2.

Truss remained stoic throughout. She admitted the communication out of Downing Street ahead of the mini-Budget was not

without error. 'We should have laid the ground work better for that,' she said. Later, asked whether she'd informed the rest of the Cabinet about Kwarteng's plan to cut the top rate of tax, she replied with a unapologetic: 'No. Fair enough, I say.'

Kuenssberg tried to needle her, the broadcaster's microphone

Naked criticism

IT should have been a political honeymoon for Liz Truss this week.

Just a month since being anointed as the new Tory leader, and after delivering the biggest tax-cutting Budget in decades, the Prime Minister might reasonably have felt entitled to a warm welcome at this week's Conservative Party conference.

But some guests at this family gathering in Birmingham did not get the memo.

Michael Gove may have pledged to be stepping back from frontline politics, but he has a funny way of showing it.

The former Cabinet minister is due to speak at no fewer than nine fringe events this week, and judging by yesterday's appearances, none of them is likely to be helpful to the Government.

Before the conference had even started he popped up on Laura



Analysis By Jason Groves

POLITICAL EDITOR

Kuenssberg's flagship BBC chat show to pass judgment. Whether by accident or design, Mr Gove was positioned directly in Miss Truss's eye line. Every time she looked up, there he was, waiting to deliver a withering verdict.

He did not hold back. Unfunded tax cuts in the emergency Budget were 'un-Conservative', he said.

Miss Truss had made a series of 'mistakes' and it was time for a 'reset'. The decision to axe the 45p top tax rate was 'a display of the wrong values'.

Would he even vote for the



Stoic: The PM on Laura Kuennsberg's BBC1 show yesterday

Zoik! The screen went dead on the Liz 'n' Laura show

occasionally catching an exasperated grunt – and even the odd drawn-out sigh of frustration. She kept pressing Truss for answers on what the Government planned to do about benefits or pensions – but not with much success.

Three times Laura sought to get Truss to admit she wanted to

cut public spending. The PM insisted she simply wanted 'value for money for the taxpayer'. Google Translate: There's a lot of waste we can bin.

It was a long and arduous going-over, but the PM just about held it together. The voice remained slow and steady. Occasionally, a facial twitch would

betray mild flashes of irritation. Meanwhile, that left arm of hers that tends to get animated during discussion was whirring around in circles constantly, as though she was whipping up a mousseline.

It was put to the PM that tax cuts for the well-off made for terrible optics. Truss was fed up

of how things looked. Far too much was made of it, she suggested: what matters is results.

As the PM carried on talking, a man with a video camera appeared in the window directly behind, trying to film her. I wondered idly whether one of Truss's bodyguards might jump out of nowhere and zap him

with a Taser. It might have enlivened proceedings.

Finally, Kuennsberg demanded, what happens if the Government's financial plans don't work? Hang tight, was the Trussian message. Her plans would deliver. And if they don't, presumably she'll just sack the Chancellor.

of the new PM did not land well...

Budget? He suggested not, saying: 'I don't believe it's right.'

In a five-minute appearance, Mr Gove effectively appointed himself as leader of the Tory party's Truss-sceptic MPs.

The naked criticism of the new PM on the opening day of her first conference as leader did not land well with her supporters.

One source said: 'Michael Gove is the jackal of British politics, always seeking another carcass to feast on', adding: 'He stabbed Boris in the back on two occasions and now he's at it again with Liz.'

'With friends like him, who needs the Labour Party?'

So what is he up to?

Some allies of the PM believe Mr Gove is seeking to stir up opposition against her in the hope of engineering a situation in which Rishi Sunak would be acclaimed by Tory MPs as her successor, without the need for a leadership contest.

One No10 insider described the plan as 'deluded', saying: 'If he really thinks he can just manoeuvre Rishi into position without a contest then he is even more deluded than

I thought.' Another Truss ally said: 'He needs to understand that the public will not forgive the Conservative Party if it despatches two leaders in quick succession.'

Mr Sunak is not here in Birmingham, having let it be known that he is skipping the conference to give the new PM 'all the space she needs to own the moment'.

But supporters of the PM believe he has despatched his outriders to do his work for him.

All of this is flatly denied by Mr Gove –

'He is the jackal of British politics'

as is a suggestion from former business minister Anna Soubry yesterday that he still hopes for another tilt at the leadership himself.

One friend of Mr Gove said: 'He is just doing what he thinks is right. I think he is speaking for an awful lot of MPs, but he is not co-ordinating with anybody.'

'As for the idea that he is pushing to be

leader himself, it is just nonsense – he has already ruled it out publicly.'

Downing Street is braced for more former ministers voicing criticism in the coming days. George Osborne crept out of the woodwork last night to say it was 'touch and go' whether Kwasi Kwarteng can survive unless he backs down over the 45p top tax rate.

And it's not just Sunak-ites sniffing the possibility that the new PM might fall by the wayside.

Some supporters of Boris Johnson cling to the hope that he could be recalled to office if Miss Truss were to stumble.

Former culture secretary Nadine Dorries, one of Mr Johnson's most ardent admirers, was quick to twist the knife yesterday when Miss Truss appeared to blame Mr Kwarteng for the 45p controversy, saying it was 'a decision the Chancellor made'.

In a message on Twitter, she said: 'One of Boris Johnson's faults was that he could sometimes be too loyal.'

'However, there is a balance and throwing your Chancellor under a bus on the first day

of conference really isn't it.' Rachel Wolf, the co-author of the Tories' 2019 manifesto, said the Truss government 'rejected everything that Boris won the last election on'.

The truth is that jitters about last week's Budget run deep among Tory MPs already nervous they face losing their seats.

One Cabinet minister said Miss Truss had only a 'five per cent chance' of winning the next election, adding: 'Things have gone downhill so fast. It's very hard to see a way back.'

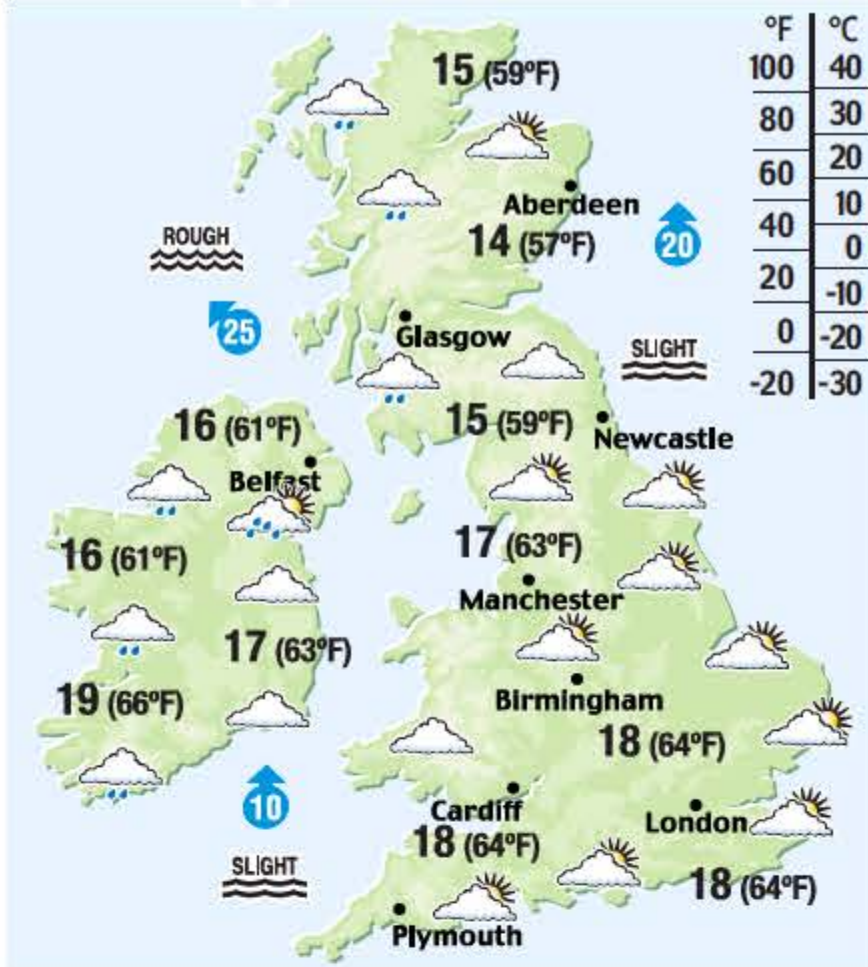
Conservative Party chairman Jake Berry yesterday warned that any MP voting against the 45p cut would be suspended from the party – but his statement only prompted more potential rebels to come forward publicly.

At ten past four this afternoon, Mr Kwarteng will rise to address the conference, in the most closely watched conference speech by a Chancellor for many years.

If he and Miss Truss are to have any chance of winning over their rebellious MPs – let alone the public and financial markets – it had better be good.

Weather

Go to: dailymail.co.uk/weather for UK and world 5 day forecast



Summary: Partly cloudy

UK TODAY: Generally fine weather in England and Wales, clouds might build up in the afternoon. An unsettled evening for Scotland and NI, mostly cloudy. Max 18c.

Today's weather

	9am	12noon	3pm	6pm	9pm
London	10c	17c	18c	17c	14c
Plymouth	14c	17c	17c	16c	13c
Cardiff	12c	16c	17c	16c	14c
B'ham	10c	16c	18c	17c	14c
M'chester	10c	14c	16c	16c	13c
Newcastle	10c	14c	14c	13c	13c
Glasgow	12c	14c	15c	14c	14c
Aberdeen	9c	13c	14c	13c	12c
Belfast	13c	14c	15c	16c	16c

5 day forecast

	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
London	20c	18c	20c	19c	18c
Plymouth	17c	16c	17c	16c	16c
Cardiff	19c	18c	17c	17c	16c
B'ham	18c	16c	17c	16c	15c
M'chester	18c	17c	16c	16c	14c
Newcastle	18c	15c	16c	15c	13c
Glasgow	16c	12c	14c	14c	12c
Aberdeen	16c	12c	15c	14c	12c
Belfast	16c	12c	15c	14c	12c

Yesterday

	24 hours	Sun	Rain	Temp
Edinburgh	6.1	0.0	9	16
Glasgow	8.3	0.0	13	15
Hull	3.1	0.0	8	15
Ipswich	5.3	0.0	10	17
Leeds	5.4	0.30	13	19
Lincoln	5.2	0.12	13	18
London	6.9	0.35	12	21
Manchester	5.9	0.0	8	17
Southampton				
St Andrews				
Stornoway				

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

Moon and Sun

MOON rises: 4.14pm, sets: 11.17pm
Sun rises London: 7.04am, sets: 6.34pm
 Manchester rises: 7.13am, sets: 6.41pm
HIGH TIDE London Bridge: 7.49pm
 Liverpool: 5.22pm

Europe forecast

	today	c f	tomorrow	c f
Amsterdam	fair	18 64	fair	19 66
Brussels	fair	17 63	fair	19 66
Frankfurt	fair	16 61	sun	18 64
Geneva	sun	20 68	sun	20 68
Lisbon	sun	28 82	sun	30 86
Madrid	fair	27 81	sun	30 86
Paris	fair	19 66	sun	22 72
Rome	sun	25 77	sun	24 75

Around the world yesterday

	weather	c	f	weather	c	f	weather	c	f		
Algiers	Sunny	28	82	Florence	Cloudy	22	72	New Delhi	Fair	33	91
Amsterdam	Fair	17	63	Geneva	Fair	20	68	New York	Rain	15	59
Athens	Sunny	30	86	Gibraltar	Fair	20	68	Nice	Fair	21	70
Auckland	Showers	17	63	Guernsey	Rain	15	59	Oslo	Cloudy	12	54
Bahrain	Sunny	38	100	Helsinki	Fair	12	54	Palma	Sunny	25	77
Barcelona	Sunny	25	77	Hong Kong	Fair	31	88	Paris	Cloudy	20	68
Basra	Sunny	39	102	Innsbruck	Drizzle	14	57	Perth	Cloudy	19	66
Beijing	Drizzle	21	70	Istanbul	Showers	22	72	Prague	Showers	13	55
Beirut	Sunny	28	82	Jersey	Rain	19	66	Rhodes	Sunny	28	82
Belfast	Fair	14	57	Larnaca	Sunny	33	91	Riga	Fair	12	54
Belgrade	Fair	21	70	Las Palmas	Sunny	25	77	Rome	Fair	24	75
Berlin	Showers	14	57	Lisbon	Sunny	25	77	Singapore	Fair	29	84
Biarritz	Sunny	20	68	London	Fair	17	63	Stockholm	Showers	11	52
Brisbane	Showers	16	61	Los Angeles	Fair	24	75	Strasbourg	Cloudy	19	66
Brussels	Cloudy	14	57	Luxor	Sunny	38	100	Sydney	Showers	17	63
Bucharest	Fair	23	73	Madrid	Sunny	24	75	Tangier	Fair	26	79
Budapest	Fair	18	64	Malaga	Fair	24	75	Tel Aviv	Sunny	30	86
Cairo	Fair	32	90	Malta	Sunny	25	77	Tenerife	Sunny	26	79
Cape Town	Sunny	22	72	Melbourne	Fair	16	61	Tokyo	Sunny	28	82
Casablanca	Fair	31	88	Mexico City	Sunny	20	68	Toronto	Fair	19	66
Copenhagen	Showers	15	59	Miami	Cloudy	28	82	Tunis	Fair	27	81
Corfu	Sunny	25	77	Milan	Sunny	22	72	Vancouver	Sunny	18	64
Dubai	Sunny	34	93	Montreal	Cloudy	16	61	Venice	Sunny	20	68
Dublin	Fair	14	57	Moscow	Cloudy	10	50	Vienna	Showers	17	63
Dubrovnik	Sunny	21	70	Mumbai	Fair	30	86	Warsaw	Showers	13	55
Faro	Sunny	28	82	Nairobi	Fair	25	77	Wellington	Cloudy	9	48

By David Barrett,
Jason Groves and Harriet Line

MINISTERS are planning to create an intelligence unit to track prisoners' illegal online posts in the wake of a scandal involving one of Stephen Lawrence's killers.

The Daily Mail revealed last week how, in an astonishing breach of prison security, murderer David Norris acquired a smartphone and used it to post sickening selfies from his cell.

He even used the device to launch a foul-mouthed tirade against former justice secretary Dominic Raab.

Now ministers want to create a specialist team to seek out online posts by inmates. It will gather information by scanning social media platforms in a bid to lead prison officials straight to inmates who are breaking the rules.

The project is likely to involve the National Crime Agency, dubbed 'Britain's FBI', police and even the security services, it is understood.

'Online bragging used against them'

The scheme will probably use the same technology that is deployed to combat online paedophiles and terrorists, it is thought.

Prisoners are banned from having mobile phones in order to prevent them from intimidating victims and witnesses, or running criminal empires from behind bars.

In a separate development, ministers are also understood to be considering a review of prisoners' access to games consoles after a cell selfie posted by Norris showed an Xbox in the background.

'We're not suggesting prisoners should languish in their cells with just a book, but there has to be a proper balance,' a Government source said.

One of Britain's most notorious killers, Norris was convicted of 18-year-old Stephen's 1993 murder at a bus stop in Eltham, south-east London. He and his racist gang targeted the aspiring architect because of the colour of his skin.

The 46-year-old prisoner brazenly posted a picture of himself in his cell wearing Top Gun-style sunglasses and with his TV and games console.

He also launched a WhatsApp rant against Mr Raab, who blocked his bid to move to an open prison.

Norris wrote: 'Dom Raab your [sic] f**** c*** cos the Nozza is defo home in two [years] and High Court now agrees. Get that party sorted girls cos I be there soon.'

A whistleblower said Norris bragged to fellow inmates that he was the gang member who stabbed Stephen to death. If true, this is a significant revelation because police are still

Crackdown on jail web posts after Norris storm



From last Wednesday's Daily Mail

Staff over 50 'vanishing'

HUGE numbers of Britons in their 50s have failed to return to work since the pandemic, prompting alarm within Government.

A minister admitted yesterday that the drop is a 'big worry area'. Some older employees are thought to have long Covid while others have reassessed their work-life balance. Work and Pensions minister Victoria

Prentis told a conference fringe meeting: 'We need their skills, we need their experience... we desperately need them back.'

She called on bosses to offer more flexibility. According to the Office for National Statistics, there were 386,096 more 'economically inactive' adults aged 50 to 64 this spring than before Covid struck.

uncertain who wielded the knife. His breach of the rules could result in him having his minimum jail term of 14 years

and three months extended by up to two years.

The former gangster's son was placed in the segrega-

Pledge to combat 'cancel



Reforms: Suella Braverman

A MAJOR shake-up of human rights laws will combat so-called cancel culture and set out protection for free speech, the Justice Secretary said yesterday.

Brandon Lewis made the pledge amid concern that unelected judges were developing European-style privacy laws by the back door.

He said: 'We need to ensure we have a system of human rights that doesn't create or give cover for cancel culture. We need to do everything we

By David Barrett
Home Affairs Editor

can to protect freedom of speech, even when it can be really, really annoying.

'We can't allow people to claim their human rights are being infringed because they disagree with us.'

'I fundamentally agree in people's right to offend.'

He added that allowing free speech and debate to be restricted would leave society 'trapped in one person's

world view, which is very, very dangerous'.

A Bill of Rights to replace Labour's Human Rights Act was published by Boris Johnson's government this year -

'Protect freedom of speech'

but it has gone back to the drawing board to ensure it combats the issue of Channel migrants being trafficked from France in small boats.



Safety first: Jacob Rees-Mogg receives a protective police guard as he is heckled by protesters on arrival at the Conservative Party conference in Birmingham yesterday

Police escort to get Mogg past protests by hate mob

By **Kumail Jaffer**
Political Reporter

TWO senior Tories were heckled by furious protesters outside the Conservative Party conference yesterday and had to be escorted by police officers into the venue.

Footage showed Business Secretary Jacob Rees-Mogg and Lichfield MP Michael Fabricant being angrily confronted by activists in Birmingham on the opening day of the event.

Shouts of 'Tories out' and 'shame on you' rang out as the two politicians walked into the conference centre, while a simultaneous anti-Tory protest was held by a Left-wing campaign group nearby.

Speaking afterwards, both Mr Rees-Mogg and Mr Fabricant defended the right of the demonstrators to make their views heard.

The Business Secretary, who faced a hostile reception as he crossed Victoria Square in Birmingham city centre yesterday morn-



Banner bearers: Activists get behind their message outside the conference centre

ing, played down the protests as a 'fact of democracy'. He told Sky News: 'There have been protests at Tory conferences since time immemorial, it's nothing new. They're shouting but it's perfectly peaceful. And the right to peaceful expression of your view is fundamental to our constitution.'

Last night Mr Fabricant denied sugges-

tions that he was attacked or pushed over on his way into the centre, but said he took an air horn off a noisy demonstrator.

He added that he was not physically targeted but 'directed wrongly right into the middle' of the protesting crowd.

Mr Fabricant tweeted: 'I think the protesters thought I was deliberately provoking

them. But no one touched me. Just shouted abuse. They were just loud!

'One protester tried to blow a plastic horn in my ear while I was walking. I asked him to stop, but he refused. So I grabbed his horn and threw it away. I think he was more shocked than me!

'As far as I could see, the crowd was noisy but self-disciplined. We live in a democracy and people have every right to protest.'

Campaign group The People's Assembly organised a rally to protest the conference in Victoria Square yesterday. The line-up included RMT boss Mick Lynch and former shadow minister Laura Pidcock. They said: 'The people of Birmingham sending a clear message to Jacob Rees-Mogg.'

As speakers took to the stage, there were chants of 'Tories are not welcome here' and 'Tory scum out of Brum'.

Labour MP for Birmingham Yardley Jess Phillips urged calm before the conference, saying: 'Remember that Tories are currently protesting themselves and need to be allowed to dance on the head of that pin.'

'Vitriol will be a gift to them. Let all the protest be peaceful.'

'culture' in human rights shake-up

Mr Lewis told a fringe event set up by the Policy Exchange think-tank at the Conservative Party conference yesterday that he and Home Secretary Suella Braverman were working on reforming human rights laws to boost deportations.

He added: 'This Government is determined to make sure we are dealing with the issues around illegal immigration.'

Mr Lewis indicated that the previous Bill of Rights plans were likely to be broken down into smaller packages to get them

through Parliament, adding: 'We'll probably do it in different pieces of legislation.'

It is understood a separate package will set out how decisions by UK courts supersede rulings by the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, and that Parliament has supreme authority in law-making.

'We do need to be clear that Parliament is sovereign and if Parliament has expressed a view through legislation then the courts have always kept to that view when implementing the law

that has been passed,' he said. His remarks came after Mrs Braverman said she would reform the Modern Slavery Act, which has allowed Channel migrants to

'Adopt old-school policing'

delay deportation by claiming they had been exploited.

'There have been huge attempts to try to stop the problem and I feel we are at a stage now where we need to take dramatic action,'

Mrs Braverman told The Sun. 'The problem has gone out of control for a variety of reasons.'

'A majority of people coming here from Albania - some 80 per cent - who are coming across on small boats are claiming to be victims of modern slavery... regardless of the fact that they may have paid tens of thousands of pounds for the privilege of being a so-called modern slave.'

'That's also regardless of the fact that they will have actively sought to come to the UK through an illegal, illicit and dangerous

method. So it's being abused.' She indicated she would raise the evidence threshold for slavery claims and introduce time limits.

She also said some police forces had been 'captured' by woke groups and tended 'to pander to political correctness... and a lack of courage to adopt old-school policing'. She added: 'I want to encourage police to get back to investigating every burglary, making sure antisocial behaviour, car theft, drugs, graffiti, vandalism is jumped on instantly.'

Comment - Page 16

FOUND



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Kicked off: Kaye Adams and Kai Widdrington tackled the Charleston but did not impress the judges

Kaye's Strictly dream over... just as she was hitting her sexy stride

By Paul Revoir
Media Editor

SHE joked that she needed to learn how to be sexy on the dancefloor when she took on the Strictly challenge.

But just as she was starting to hit her seductive stride, Loose Women host Kaye Adams became the first celebrity to leave this year's show last night.

The 59-year-old was sent home by the judges who opted to keep Bros singer Matt Goss instead after their dance-off.

They ended up in the bottom two on the leader board after the judges' scores from last week and this week were combined with viewers' votes.

Miss Adams's departure came as head judge Shirley Ballas was embroiled in a sexism row on Saturday night by saying contestant Will Mellor was 'easy on the eye' and 'very adjudicator friendly'.

Some viewers claimed it would have caused 'uproar' if a male judge had made such comments about a female contestant.

Ratings for the second episode proper of the series, with an average of 7.3million, were up on from last week's 6.84million. But they were down by nearly a million on last year's equivalent show, according to data from online overnights, tv service.

Last night viewers saw Miss Adams dance the Charleston with Kai Widdrington for a second time while Goss and his partner Nadiya Bychkova repeated their samba.

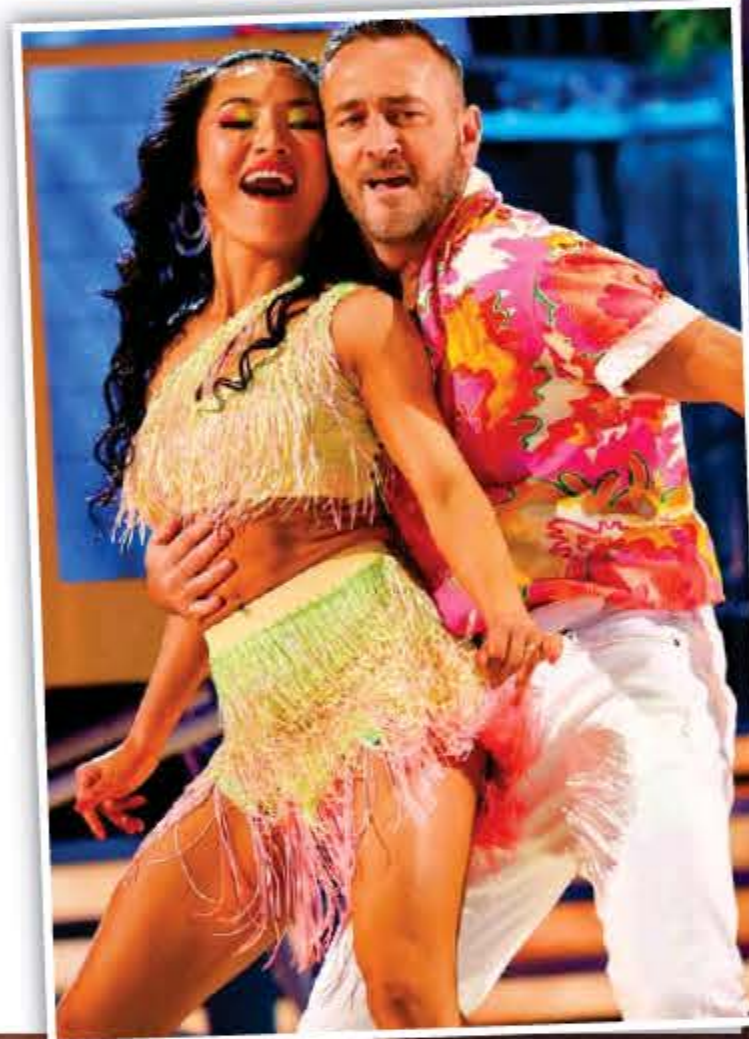
After the judges' verdict, Miss Adams told host Tess Daly: 'It was the right result and I did make mistakes.'

'It was a hell of a lot of fun. I said my ambition was to learn to love to dance and I have seen a whole new side to myself.'

'It's been a wonderful experience and to spend time with such talented people who love the show so much has been a joy.'



Praise: Miss Ballas, top, admired Will Mellor; below with Nancy Xu



As man is in court charged with murder of schoolgirl, police vow: We'll find everyone linked to horrific gun death of Olivia, 9

POLICE chiefs have pledged to track down everyone who tried to 'protect and shield' the gunman who killed nine-year-old Olivia Pratt-Korbel after a man was charged with her murder.

Thomas Cashman, 34, appears before magistrates today accused of murdering the schoolgirl and attempting to murder her mother, Cheryl.

Olivia was at her home in Dovecot, Liverpool, on August 22 when convicted burglar Joseph Nee, 35, ran through her front door as he

By James Tozer

tried to flee a gunman who had opened fire outside.

The killer followed Nee through the door and fired a shot from a revolver that hit Olivia's mother in the arm and then struck the schoolgirl in the chest.

Nee was also wounded after being shot with another weapon, a 9mm Glock handgun.

On Saturday, prosecutors announced that Cashman, from the West Derby area of Liverpool, had been accused of murdering Olivia as well as two counts of attempted murder in relation to

her mother and Nee. He has also been charged with two counts of possession of a firearm to endanger life.

In addition, Paul Russell, 40, also from West Derby, was charged

'Supplying and hiding weapons'

with assisting an offender. Detective Chief Superintendent Mark Kameen, head of investigations at Merseyside Police, said the probe continued 'in earnest' despite the charges being brought.

'At the beginning of the investi-

gation, we were firm in our commitment to finding all of those involved in this case,' he added.

'This includes the people who tried to shield and protect individuals, and those who supplied the weapons, and indeed those who are hiding the weapons used in this attack.'

He said that while the police appeal had received an 'overwhelming response', detectives still needed people to come forward to tell them what they knew.

Despite tip-offs leading to searches of West Derby golf course and Yew Tree Cemetery, the murder weapon and the other gun

have yet to be found. Last month, the reward offered in the hunt for her killer was increased to £200,000 – the biggest single reward offered by Crimestoppers. The charity's chairman, Lord Ashcroft, said the case had been 'incredibly shocking' not just for Olivia's family, 'but for Liverpool and the nation'.

'We need every effort to find those involved in this appalling killing,' he added.

Nine men have previously been detained over Olivia's death, all of whom were later bailed.

Olivia's funeral was held last month at St Margaret Mary's Catholic Church in Knotty Ash.

King's first state visitor revealed

By **Rebecca English**
Royal Editor

THE King and Queen Consort are to host their first state visit at Buckingham Palace next month.

Charles and Camilla will welcome South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and First Lady Dr Tshepo Motsepe from November 22 to 24.

The visit is understood to have been in the early stages of planning when the late Queen died.

She met Mr Ramaphosa when he came to London in 2018 for a Commonwealth heads of government meeting, and she gave him letters sent to her by former president Nelson Mandela.

The state visit next month will be the first since former US president Donald Trump came to Britain in 2019.

The Emperor of Japan was meant to come in 2020, however it was called off as a result of the pandemic.

Normally, visiting heads of state would set up residence at Buckingham Palace, but it is not clear whether this will be possible because major building work is being carried out at the monarch's official London home.

The last visiting head of state to have stayed at Buckingham Palace was King Willem-Alexander of the Netherlands in 2018.

President Trump stayed overnight with the US Ambassador at his official residence in London when he came to visit – much to the leader's disappointment.

State visits are a crucial part of the royal family's role in promot-



Royal welcome: The late Queen greets Cyril Ramaphosa

ing Britain abroad and strengthening international relationships. Foreign heads of state are hosted by the monarch amid great pomp and ceremony, with full military honours and lavish banquets.

The visits are considered a prime example of the monarchy's power of 'soft diplomacy'. All

state visits are undertaken at the request of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

The timing of the trip, which will have been pencilled in for several months, comes at a difficult time for President Ramaphosa, who faces calls for his impeachment.

Former South African spy

agency boss Arthur Fraser has filed a criminal complaint against Mr Ramaphosa, accusing him of money laundering and bribery to cover up a burglary at his game farm in February 2020.

It is alleged that £3.5million in illicit US dollars was stolen, before the suspects were caught, interrogated and paid off to keep the presence of undeclared foreign currency secret.

The president, who came to power on an anti-corruption ticket, has confirmed that there was a theft at his farm but has denied wrongdoing. Law enforce-

A prime example of 'soft diplomacy'

ment agencies are investigating. But the National Assembly of South Africa has appointed an independent panel to make a preliminary assessment of whether Mr Ramaphosa should face an impeachment inquiry over alleged misconduct related to the theft.

South Africa is a long-standing member of the Commonwealth, having joined in 1931. It left in 1961, only to rejoin in 1994.

Buckingham Palace said last night: 'The President of the Republic of South Africa, President Cyril Ramaphosa, accompanied by Dr Tshepo Motsepe, has accepted an invitation from His Majesty the King to pay a state visit.'



by **Richard Kay**

EDITOR AT LARGE

ALL over the world yesterday, the first official portrait of King Charles with Queen Consort Camilla was being studied with affection and fascination.

Affection because rarely has Charles looked so at ease in a formal photograph, and fascination because with William and Kate, the new Prince and Princess of Wales, at his side, we have a glimpse of the present and future of the monarchy.

Observers will search for clues about everything from its composition and backdrop to what it tells us about the long-term security not only of the Royal Family but, more pertinently, of the institution that they represent.

The photograph is brimming with symbolism of course: the new sovereign is pictured with his son and heir, while looming behind them is a glowing portrait of King George III, the longest-reigning male monarch in British history.

But what is perhaps even more remarkable is that the picture was taken on the eve of the Queen's funeral, when our four most senior royals were about to host a huge reception for visiting Heads of State, including US President Joe Biden, at Buckingham Palace.

The message, if one was needed,

'It is a reminder the royals are always on duty'

was clear: the business of monarchy never rests, even at times of great personal sorrow, and its enduring strength lies in its continuity.

However it is also a reminder that the royals are always on duty – even when they have to summon every inch of self-control, as they did during the public grieving for the Queen who for them was a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother as well as the monarch.

Palace sources said that the picture had been taken to mark a 'historic moment' for the family. But there was more than just history on display here.

The body language of all four is surprisingly relaxed. It speaks of warmth and acceptance. The taller William and Kate may physically dominate, but the eye is drawn to the new King, a pace closer to the camera, and wearing an easy confidence.

For once, those cuff-tugging mannerisms and general fidgeting so familiar from any number of ceremonial portraits are absent.

One hand rests comfortably behind Camilla's back while the other is casually thrust into his jacket pocket.

But it is the hint of a smile on his face that is the most telling. It is the look of a man who is not daunted by what lies ahead – but rather is invigorated by it.

There is another significant factor here too. And it is a not-so-subtle nod to his wishes for a slimmed-down monarchy: one he believes will be

By **Claire Duffin**
and **Rebecca English**

KING Charles will not attend the Cop27 climate summit after being advised to stay away by Liz Truss.

The monarch was reportedly planning to make a speech at the meeting of world leaders in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, in November.

But the Prime Minister, who will also not attend, objected to his plans during an audience at Buckingham Palace last month.

It comes amid growing suspicion that the Government is planning to water down or even abandon its target of 'net zero' carbon

'Not right for his first overseas visit'

emissions by 2050. The Palace said advice had been sought by the King and was given by Miss Truss. 'With mutual friendship and respect there was agreement that the King would not attend,' the Palace said.

But the decision is likely to have disappointed the King, who as Prince of Wales had a long history of campaigning to reduce the effects of climate change. As heir to the throne he also had a reputation for interfering in government business, most recently expressing his distaste for the Government's plan to send illegal immigrants to Rwanda.

After the death of his mother, friends insisted he will not cool on the issue of global warming.

But as monarch he is obliged to remain politically neutral, and in his address to the nation after the Queen's death, he acknowledged that 'it will no longer be possible to give so much time to the... issues for which I care so deeply'.

Before his ascension to the throne last month, King Charles had indicated he would attend the 27th UN Climate Change

Conference, known as Cop27, which will run from November 6 to 18.

A source told the Daily Mail there had never been any firm plans for the King to go, though he has attended previously, leading to speculation he would again this year. As all foreign visits are undertaken at the request of the British Government, advice was sought by the Palace.

The 'unanimous' decision, it has been suggested, is that with so many demands for the King to be deployed abroad, Cop27 would not be the 'right occasion' for his first overseas visit as sovereign.

Sources highlighted his address to the nation following his mother's death, in which he stressed

that he remains 'ever mindful' of his constitutional role in light of his change of circumstances.

As previously highlighted by the Daily Mail, it is understood that the environment will remain central to his work as sovereign.

In 2015, he delivered the opening address at Cop21 in Paris, describing climate change as the greatest threat facing humanity.

In a hard-hitting speech the King echoed Winston Churchill by calling on 'the few' to take action to save the planet, urging world leaders to commit 'trillions, not billions, of dollars'.

He also delivered a speech at the opening ceremony of Cop26 in Glasgow last year, calling on world leaders to adopt a 'warlike footing' to deal with climate change.

Although he will not attend Cop27 in person, it is understood he is still determined to make his presence felt, leaving the door open for a virtual appearance.

Conservative MP Tobias Ellwood said in a tweet that he hoped the King would be allowed to go to Egypt, adding that he was a 'globally respected voice' on the environment whose attendance would add 'serious authority' to the British delegation.

While Boris Johnson became an enthusiastic advocate for net zero, Miss Truss is thought to be more sceptical of the green agenda.

A government source said: 'The Palace and the Government considered separately, and then agreed jointly, that... he is not going to be attending Cop.'

Two charged with 'assault on Andrew heckler'

TWO MEN have been charged with assault after a protester who heckled Prince Andrew as he walked behind the Queen's coffin was allegedly 'thrown to the ground'.

The men, both aged 34, were arrested following the incident on the Royal Mile in

Edinburgh on September 12. Video footage appeared to show the mourners stepping in after the Duke of York was 'verbally abused' while walking behind his mother's coffin.

At the time, a 22-year-old protester was charged with a breach of the peace. He is due to appear at court at a later date.

But police have now confirmed the further arrests. A Police Scotland spokesman said: 'Two men, both aged 34, have been arrested and charged in connection with assault, following an incident on the Royal Mile. A report will be sent for the consideration of the Procurator Fiscal.'

The picture that tells Harry and Meghan: There's no way back



New royal order: King Charles

more relevant and more resilient. Some will wonder if this is not just slimming down, but cutting to the bone. The unspoken elephant in the room is the absence of the King's younger son.

Three years ago, Prince Harry and his wife Meghan would have had every expectation to be part of this family ensemble.

Indeed, only four years ago, there was just such a photograph issued to mark the then-Prince of Wales's 70th birthday.

But, within months, the unity and happiness that radiated from that image had vanished.

So it is not difficult to imagine how this picture will be viewed in sunny California, where the Duke and Duchess of Sussex are based. Might it deepen their feelings of



Mourning: Duke and Duchess of Sussex were at Queen's funeral

smiles for the official photograph with the Queen Consort, and the Prince and Princess of Wales

exclusion and exile, or will it merely serve to remind them why they chose to break from the family in the first place?

It surely can be no coincidence that the picture was taken when the couple were still in Britain and several days before they returned home to their children Archie and Lilibet. It must, therefore, be yet another signal that they will never again return to their central role in royal life.

One reason that they chose to walk away in the first place was because they did not wish to share the spotlight.

In America, they are at the cen-

tre of their own production. But in Britain, there is a new royal order – and it revolves around four people, not six.

THERE is a finality about this photo that suggests there is no way back for a couple who could have been at the epicentre of royalty, but are now at its margins.

Is it the dagger to their hearts it was for Prince Andrew when he was first excluded from the Palace balcony? It certainly feels like it.

Over the years the Queen often

curated the photographs around her when she spoke to the nation for her Christmas message. She did so in 2019, when on her desk were pictures of her own father and Charles, but also William and Prince George. Here, it said, was monarchy past, present and future. The omission of Harry was said to have contributed to his break from the family just weeks later.

Rather than photographs, King Charles commandeered the art on the walls of his new palace home for this image – and he selected carefully. Choosing as backdrop a king who reigned for 60 years was another nod to the permanence – and preservation – of monarchy.

It is a lesson Prince Harry could do well to study, because every royal picture tells a story.

Harry's summit snub to Wills

PAGES 24-25

Daily Mail

COMMENT

Disunited Tories will reap electoral disaster

IN political circles, it is joked that a government that isn't trailing in the polls halfway through the electoral cycle is not doing its job correctly.

One doubts, however, that Liz Truss and Kwasi Kwarteng are laughing.

Not even in their worst nightmares could they have imagined capping energy bills for families and businesses – one of the biggest government handouts in history – and leaving more money in people's pockets through tax cuts, only to see their party's popularity plunge vertiginously.

Their handling of what was a commendable mini-Budget panicked the money markets. That was perceived to have contributed to rising mortgage costs, which left many fearful they wouldn't be able to pay for their homes. The PM and Chancellor have risked imperilling one of the Conservatives' greatest strengths – their reputation for economic competence.

So the party conference in Birmingham is critical for this nascent administration. They must convince activists, the wider electorate and global investors that the British economy is in safe hands.

Miss Truss was right to admit making mistakes. But she and Mr Kwarteng were equally correct to vow to stay the course.

Trussonomics is a breath of fresh air, blowing away the cobwebs of the failed economic orthodoxy. Defibrillating the sluggish economy will turbocharge growth, incentivise hard work, increase wages and bring in more money for public services.

After years of politicians who change their minds with the wind, it is refreshing to have leaders who believe being right is more important than being popular.

To show that the Tories are competent though, it is imperative MPs get behind Miss Truss – and not just to stab her in the back.

The disloyalty of Michael Gove, who spent yesterday gleefully denouncing his own Government's policies, is sickening.

The former Cabinet minister appears to be orchestrating a plot to undermine or even oust Miss Truss, involving MPs still rankled by Rishi Sunak's leadership defeat.

His claim her agenda is 'not Conservative' is hogwash. Tax cuts are Conservative, Mr Gove. What is not, is putting the economy into a coma and making it a crime to visit a dying relative in hospital or at home – as he argued for during Covid.

Those treacherous Tories are playing with fire. A party at war with itself can never expect to win an election.

Don't they realise the days of Labour being the hopeless circus act they were under Jeremy Corbyn are gone? They now resemble a functioning opposition. Yes, Sir Keir Starmer is a Grade-A dud, but the tumult has refashioned him in the eyes of many voters as a feasible PM.

Should the Tories implode, we risk a diabolical hard-Left alliance of Labour, the SNP and the Lib Dems seizing power.

Do the conspirators really want that? Brexit would wither, and the economy, the Union, and all we cherish would be ruined.

The tomfoolery must stop. The Conservative Party needs to show unity: Of purpose, of message and of approach.

Time to act on borders

WERE there prizes for stating the obvious, the Home Secretary would have yesterday put herself in line for the gold medal.

The Channel migrants crisis, said Suella Braverman, was 'out of control'. Truly, did anyone not realise?

Already this year, 33,000 have reached our shores illegally in smugglers' dinghies.

So we hope Mrs Braverman's plan to reform the disastrous Modern Slavery Act, making it harder for illegal immigrants and foreign criminals (helped by activist lawyers) to thwart deportation, gets results.

The Left will inevitably howl with outrage. But voters want the Government to enforce strict border controls – not oversee an immigration free-for-all.

Russia's forces are approaching mutiny – and when that happens, Putin goes the way of the Tsars

FEW nations have as deep a sense of their own history as the Russians. Indeed, it was on the basis of a tendentious tract about the historic 'unity' of Russians and Ukrainians that President Putin justified his invasion of an independent neighbouring state.

But another word, also with great resonance in Russian history, now hangs over the Kremlin's flailing military campaign. And that word is: Mutiny.

Remarkably, it was raised on Moscow's main TV channel last week by the woman described as Putin's propagandist-in-chief, Margarita Simonyan, during the nightly discussion programme on the state of the 'special military operation'.

The striking-looking Simonyan is the head of RT, the Kremlin's English-language broadcasting network (now banned in the UK); but here she was speaking to a Russian audience.

She was raging about the incompetence with which Putin's 'partial mobilisation', announced on September 21, was being carried out, and the gross inadequacy of the provisions being supplied to the hundreds of thousands being called up to fight: 'Students, people with serious illnesses, single mothers, people as old as 62 ... and being handed rotten things, no helmets or body armour.'

Criticism

She warned the heads of the armed forces: 'Comrade Commanders: don't anger the people!'

And now came the reference to historic precedent. Simonyan told the 'commanders' to remember the mutiny on the Battleship Potemkin during the Russo-Japanese war of 1905, which was provoked by the fact that all the meat available to the crew had been maggot-infested.

'Let me remind you that in 1905, small things like that led to the first mutiny of an entire military unit in the history of our country. Is that what you want?'

She exempted Putin from all criticism, of course, and praised her ultimate boss for taking 'the very heavy load of responsibility solely upon himself'. I doubt that would have comforted the increasingly deluded occupant of the Kremlin.

Like the invasion of Ukraine, the 1905 Russo-Japanese war saw the much larger country suffer from a series of blunders based on an exaggerated sense of its own military capability – and, to some astonishment, the Japanese won.

The Potemkin mutiny was put down, but the privations and humiliations linked to that conflict led to uprisings in Russia itself – known as the 1905 Revolution. The result was that the Tsar was forced to concede political reforms, including the inauguration of multi-party elections.

Lenin and the Bolsheviks saw the Potemkin mutiny as an inspiration for their own seizure of power in 1917.

They commissioned the Soviet director Sergei Eisenstein to make a film about this historic event. Battleship Potemkin, first screened in 1925, became the totemic account for the masses of why 'the workers' rise up against the oppressive commands and callousness of their masters. In 1917,



there were occasional mutinies among the ill-equipped Russian army, almost two million of whose soldiers perished in the Great War. But the mutiny that did for Tsar Nicholas – who had taken personal command of the army in 1915 – was in the garrison in Petrograd (now St Petersburg).

The soldiers refused to obey the Tsar's orders to suppress uprisings in that city, and, in short order, a 'provisional government' was set up, with the Tsar abdicating the following day, March 15.

It was the next year that Nicholas II and his family met their grisly fate – shot dead and bayoneted by the Bolsheviks.

The revolutionaries' overthrow of the provisional government was, again, assisted by mutiny among the army, whose troops had been won over by Lenin's promise to abandon the war.

Clearly, the slaughter in Ukraine is on nothing like the scale of World War I. But the reason Putin, with evident reluctance, felt forced to call up hundreds of thousands more is that so many of his best troops had already been slaughtered.

Morale is desperately low, even before still worse-equipped and less battle-ready forces are pressed into fighting a Ukrainian army furnished with some of Nato's most lethal weaponry and which has recently achieved stunning victories.

Corpses

It is not sympathy with the people of Ukraine that has caused tens of thousands of able-bodied Russian males to flee the country over the past week, but fear that they, too, once conscripted, would soon become part of the next layer of corpses on Ukrainian soil.

And in Dagestan, a republic in which 99 per cent of the population had supposedly voted for Putin, and where a disproportionate number of young men have been called up, there have been demonstrations by mothers holding banners declaring: 'Our children are not fertiliser!'

Last week, the New York Times published extracts from thousands of intercepted personal calls made in March by Russian troops as they were forced back from the suburbs of Kyiv.

The NYT had been passed the recordings by the Ukrainian security agencies, but published them only now because the paper had spent months checking that all the phone numbers and identities were genuine. Here is a selection, edited to take out some of the (understandable)

profanities. Nikita, to his mother: 'Sixty per cent of the regiment is gone already.' Yevgeny, to his partner: 'No one is left from my Kostroma regiment.'

Sergey, to his mother: 'There were 400 paratroopers. And only 38 survived ... because our commanders sent soldiers to the slaughter.' Sergey to his girlfriend, explaining why they'd shot their captives in Bucha rather than keep them as prisoners: 'We would have had to feed them, and we don't have enough food ourselves.'

A similar selection had been published a month ago by the Kyiv Post, which gave more details of the fury of Russian troops with their own officers (very much in the spirit of the Potemkin mutineers).

They talk about flatly refusing to fight – which helps explain why thousands of Russian troops had simply fled from Ukrainian forces in the Kharkiv region, leaving vast amounts of munitions and armour behind them.

An intercepted call dated September 2 reveals a Russian soldier telling a relative: 'In our unit, they're going to get together, they're going to go to [the senior commander] Zavatsky, and lay down their arms ... all the infantry, it looks to me, they couldn't give a s*** any more about anything.'

Humiliating

Other recorded conversations between Ukrainian soldiers show how surprised, and even shocked, they had been by the ease with which they had killed the Russian invaders: the most recent one involves the battle for the control of the strategic hub of Lyman in Donetsk, which Ukraine recaptured over the weekend.

This was especially humiliating for Putin, as he had only just declared that region to be a part of Russia, following one of his phony referendums.

What follows is harrowing: 'Lots of dead Russians. Like hunting squirrels in a pecan orchard ... We cut them down before they knew what was happening. They had little ammo, no med kits, very little food ... I came away shaking like a leaf, not scared, just "wired" and sick of killing people.'

By all accounts, Putin, who has increasingly taken personal control of military planning, à la Nicholas II, had resisted his officers' request to retreat earlier from Lyman. This latest slaughter of Russians is on him, and him alone, even if Margarita Simonyan and others of the Kremlin's propagandists continue to claim that the setbacks – to put it mildly – are the responsibility of the 'commanders' rather than the Commander-in-Chief.

But her warnings of 'mutiny' and even a 'Potemkin' moment – rooted in some of the most tumultuous episodes of Russian history – are the augury of the end of this war, if not of Putin's fall.

Russia's troops are not just short of food and the most basic equipment; in the recent call-up, they have even been told to take their wives' and girlfriends' tampons for putting in any wounds they receive, as no tourniquets are available.

Putin sees himself as the successor to his country's most revered rulers – notably Peter the Great – in restoring what he regards as territory rightfully Russia's. Instead, he faces the fate of the last of the Tsars.

THE BIG BANG



Pictures: TOM BANKS

Going... going... gone: The giant BOS steelmaking plant dominating the skyline on Teesside is demolished by workers using nearly two tons of explosives

for Singapore-on-Tees?

THE scene before me is like something from the Ukrainian front line. A huge, gnarled, rusting, lifeless steelworks — visible for miles around — stands in the middle of an industrial wastescape, sandbags piled high around its base.

A day later, the whole thing has vanished: blown to smithereens in a ball of fire and smoke.

If only some of the City spivs and self-fulfilling prophets of doom, so eagerly talking down Britain's financial prospects, could have been here to watch the fireworks. For if you want to see what real economic growth looks like, then this is the place to be.

I am nowhere near the Black Sea, but next to the North Sea. In fact, I am only a short drive from the North York Moors and James Herriot country.

Nor was this any ordinary demolition. It is believed to have been the largest controlled explosion in Britain since World War II.

Bringing down the average block of flats or redundant industrial chimney stack usually involves pulverising a few thousand tons of brick and concrete. This thing, dominating the skyline for as long as most people can remember, was in a different league. British Steel's former Basic Oxygen Steelmaking (BOS) plant here at Redcar involved 105,000 tons of solid steel and iron. It took nearly two tons of explosives to bring it down.

What's more, this was just one in a series of monster detonations scheduled around here in the weeks ahead.

For things are moving fast on Teesside. And thanks to the Government's latest, much-mocked Budget proposals, they may be about to move faster still.

This former industrial works — the largest brownfield site in Europe — is precisely the sort of place that is being proposed as a new 'Investment Zone', strategically designed to get the economy going, with hefty tax and planning breaks for investors. Here, in other words, is the flipside of all the horror headlines that we have been digesting in recent days.

'These investment plans are going to be hugely beneficial if the Government can get them going fast enough,' says Ben Houchen, the man who pressed the detonator at the weekend's mega-blast. 'These benefits are chunky. I don't

Blowing up Redcar's historic steelworks clears the way for one of many new 'Investment Zones' designed to level up deprived areas. But will they work – or will the Whitehall Blob stop them dead?

HOW I SEE IT



by Robert Hardman

think people realise how chunky they are. I think too many political commentators get too caught up in all the rhetoric rather than paying more attention to the economics.'

Mr Houchen is the young (35-year-old) can-do Conservative Mayor of Tees Valley, the combined authority spanning five council areas of the North East, including Middlesbrough, Hartlepool and Darlington, and almost 700,000 people. He was first elected in this erstwhile Labour stronghold in 2017, long before the phrase 'Red Wall' had entered popular parlance. He was voted in a second time last year with a thumping 73 per cent of the vote, on the back of all the inward investment which has come to the region on his watch.

'People say they want post-Brexit Britain to become "Singapore-on-Thames". Well, we're "Singapore-on-Tees" already,' he says, pointing to the fact that Tees Valley now has Britain's first and, thus far, only operational 'Freeport'. Like Margaret Thatcher's dramatic rejuvenation of London's Docklands during

the 1980s, this is the Brexit-driven scheme to create ten customs-free, regulation-light industrial areas, first unveiled by then-Chancellor Rishi Sunak in 2020.

Sunak's successor Kwasi Kwarteng has gone further in his not-so-'mini'-Budget by announcing plans for 'Investment Zones' in up to 38 local authority areas, all chosen for their growth potential. They include parts of Teesside. Successful applicants will enjoy even more generous exemptions on stamp duty, business rates, National Insurance and planning rules, subject to a rubber-stamp in Whitehall.

The scheme has only just been announced, but Mr Houchen has already identified four areas for which he will be seeking 'Investment Zone' status.

PROPOSED sites include the town centres of Middlesbrough and Hartlepool plus much of this sprawling ex-steelopolis where Mr Houchen was pressing the button. He is no government patsy. He doesn't mince his words and is quite happy to tell me what was wrong with Mr Kwarteng's Budget.

'What is a failure is that everyone is talking about getting rid of the 45p tax rate and nobody's talking about the billions of subsidy for capping energy bills. The optics

are wrong. It sends out the wrong message when people are worrying about turning on the heating,' he says. However, when it comes to the current crisis of confidence, he believes that the Bank of England is 'more to blame than the Budget'.

During the Tory leadership race, he was a staunch supporter of Rishi Sunak whose Richmond constituency is just up the road. Mr Sunak, of course, warned against the sort of tax cuts which Liz Truss and Mr Kwarteng are now championing.

Mr Houchen, however, believes that the media and Labour are so obsessed with doom and gloom that they are incapable of seeing a broader picture. 'People are talking about the turmoil with the Pound but it's back to where it was. Gas wholesale prices are below where they were at the start of the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Petrol prices in our town are still very high. But in places they're back down to £1.60 a litre,' he says.

Meanwhile, he says, the potential of these 'Investment Zones', on top of the 'Freeports', should be a 'game-changer' for inward investment.

We are talking at his office inside Teesside International Airport, the loss-making local airport he insisted on buying when he became mayor. It has since become part of the 'Freeport' scheme and is about to receive a £25 million

investment from the U.S. aviation giant Willis, which is planning a new aircraft maintenance operation here. Nearby, plans are taking shape for a new plant making aviation fuel from biomass products.

During this summer's air travel meltdown, Teesside International Airport was an exception. 'We kept the staff on full furlough so that when we reopened, it was seamless,' says Mr Houchen.

I have had to wait my turn to see Mr Mayor. Our meeting is delayed because a team of private equity investors have dropped by to discuss plans for manufacturing and office developments.

The really plum target, Mr Houchen admits, is to pull in one of the automotive giants and replicate the Nissan plant up the road in Sunderland.

'Over the past three or four years, there has been a regular tick of car manufacturers who go round Europe, he says. 'They look at the UK and for whatever reason they decide against it. I think if the UK gets its act together on Investment Zones, we could see a number of manufacturers thinking again. I can see us landing at least one if we have our way.'

HE BELIEVES that a prime site for any new car plant would be this sprawling industrial wastescape, now called Teesworks.

I join one of Mr Houchen's team for a tour of a site which used to emit so much smoke that Britain's carbon footprint dropped by 6 per cent when it shut. At 4,500 acres, this complex is three times the size of Gibraltar (and seven times the City of London). There are no signs and no road names. You navigate using the hulks of bygone blast furnaces and chimneys still peppering the horizon.

As far as the eye can see, with the exception of a new waste recycling plant (known locally as 'poo power'), almost everything is in line for demolition.

These works were in decline for years, long before most of the site finally shut down for good in 2015. The Government and the owners of the land (a trio of Thai banks) argued about what to do with it.

'It was costing the Government £25 million a year just to keep it

TURN TO PAGE 19

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Andrew Pierce



Was IMF attack over sacking of Sir Humphrey?

A 'LARGE and untar-geted fiscal pack-age' was the scathing verdict of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) on Kwasi Kwarteng's mini-Budget last week: an extraordinary intervention from a body normally charged with rescuing basket-case economies in Latin America.

Ministers were furious. And sources tell me there is a strong suspicion among senior government figures that allies of the ousted Treasury mandarin Sir Tom Scholar might have had something to do with it.

One of Kwarteng's first acts as Chancellor was to sack Scholar, the Permanent Secretary at the Treasury since 2016.

An arch-Remainer who

previously served as David Cameron's 'Adviser for Europe', Scholar epitomised the stuffy economic orthodoxy that Kwarteng and Liz Truss are seeking to overthrow.

But, says my Treasury mole, his defenestration enraged Whitehall: 'Scholar still has a big cadre of supporters. The IMF attack reeked of their revenge.'

Lord Moore, Margaret Thatcher's official biographer, agrees.

'I would not be surprised to learn that friends of Sir Tom Scholar... have been expressing their dismay to their friends in the IMF's headquarters in Washington,' he said last week.

IMF managing director Kristalina Georgieva — who served as vice-president of the European Commission — has remained notably silent in the wake of what Lord Moore called the organisation's 'deliberately unfriendly' statement.

Our latest Corbyn nightmarer...

A NEW group calling itself 'Islington Friends of Jeremy Corbyn' is fighting for the disgraced ex-Labour leader to be readmitted to the parliamentary party ahead of the next election. In 2020, Corbyn had the whip removed after he claimed that reports of vile anti-Semitism in the party had been 'dramatically overstated



for political reasons' — which means he will have to stand as an independent for his North London seat at the next election.

If the campaign fails, Saint Jeremy, 73, is rumoured to be planning to run for

London Mayor — potentially splitting the Left-wing vote and handing the Tories the capital for the first time since Boris left in 2016.

£1M HELPS TO KEEP THE RED FLAG FLYING

BACK from Liverpool and looking notably self-congratulatory, Sir Keir Starmer has been boasting that Labour has just enjoyed its most lucrative conference in years. I'm told

exhibitors — from Barclays to the giant Unite union — coughed up more than £1 million for the chance to mingle with the comrades. Talk about trickle-down economics!

DISCUSSING the rising cost of living in an interview with ITV News, millionaire Sir Keir whines: 'My mortgage has gone up because we're on a variable rate... by a number of hundreds of pounds.' Don't feel too sorry for him. His three-storey house in North London is easily worth £2.4m — and he bought in 2004, more than enough time to make a dent in the mortgage.

THE BBC has decided not to reschedule the cancelled Last Night Of The Proms — originally planned to run two days after the Queen's death. 'Some thought it should have gone ahead as a fitting tribute to Her Majesty, but there's no plan to reinstate it: sadly it would be too costly,' a BBC insider says. But might Auntie's execs be secretly delighted that the stirring show of patriotic flag-waving won't take place this year? You be the judge.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

RICHARD TICE, leader of the Reform Party (which yesterday held its annual conference a mile from the Tories in Birmingham), has zero tolerance for illegal immigration. 'We should leave the European Court of Human Rights,' says Tice. 'We must pick migrants out of boats and take them back to France. We can do this legally under the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea laws.' Ministers take note: at least someone is proposing radical solutions.

andrew.pierce@dailymail.co.uk

After coroner's damning verdict in Molly inquest... Children's online safety still isn't a top priority for Instagram, insider claims

By **Jim Norton**
Technology Editor

AN Instagram moderator has accused the social media giant of 'cutting costs' when it comes to prioritising safety in the wake of the Molly Russell inquest.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, she said the multi-billion-pound company could do 'much better' to protect children on the platform.

The moderator, who joined a year after 14-year-old Molly died, said most of those posting self-harm content appeared to be teenage girls. She admitted she was 'not qualified' to deal with mental health issues and told how colleagues had been 'concerned' by the amount of harmful content allowed to remain on the site.

The moderator added: 'I think they still could do much, much better. I feel like they are cutting costs sometimes.'

Molly became the first child in the world in which social media was formally found to have contributed to their death on Friday. Following the conclusion, her family released a series of photos of young Molly.

The inquest heard how the 14-year-old engaged with thousands of self-harm posts in the lead up to her death.

Giving evidence, Instagram owner Meta's head of health and wellbeing Liz Lagone claimed the platform was 'safe' for children and defended its policy of leaving such content up if it was 'admissible'.

Shown the content Molly had interacted with, the senior executive claimed it did not 'promote' self-harm and instead benefited users by letting them



Viewed disturbing content: Molly Russell in a newly released picture. Inset, her father Ian

Grieving parents back her family's fight

GRIEVING parents have joined Molly Russell's father's fight to stop social media giants making a fortune while providing children with images promoting suicide and self-harm.

Architect Mariano Janin, whose daughter Mia, 14, died after being bullied online, and Ruth Moss, whose daughter Sophie Parkinson committed suicide at 13 after viewing disturbing internet content, both said yesterday they were supporting TV director Ian Russell, 59. Mr Janin, 58, from north London, told The

Sunday Times: 'Ian achieved something important... but we now need to carry on his campaign. I was watching the inquest with tears in my eyes. I know as well the pain Ian carried for the last five years because it has happened to me too.' Mia's inquest will continue next year.

Following Sophie's death eight years ago, Miss Moss said she wants online giants, including individual bosses personally, to face prosecution for the role they played, adding: 'Very little has changed since Sophie died.'

'express themselves'. The social media giant changed its policy in 2019 to ban all such material after expert advice said it could 'unintentionally' encourage users to carry out such acts.

The Instagram moderator, who very recently moved to another job within Meta, said they would have to get through around 200 accounts a day – giving them around one to two minutes on each.

She added: 'The scale of what

we were doing could sometimes feel overwhelming.'

She said she had no experience or training in dealing with mental health issues, adding: 'If there is any indication the user was posting something like a farewell, or a picture of something that maybe a method for suicide, and it was within 24 hours, we would be escalating it to police. But it was up to us to make that call.'

The Daily Mail was put in

touch with the moderator by Foxglove, which is working with content moderators to fight for better conditions and pay.

Meta said it invested 'billions each year' in its moderation teams and technology to keep its platform safe, adding that its content moderators go through an 'in-depth, multi-week training program'.

■ For help or support, visit samaritans.org or call the Samaritans for free on 116 123

Will bird flu stuff Christmas turkey supply?

STOCKS of festive turkeys could be at risk if the worst bird flu outbreak in UK history spreads, farmers warn.

More than three million birds have been culled so far and poultry producers are growing increasingly concerned about their livestock.

Special protection zones to try to contain the disease have been set up in Norfolk, Suffolk, parts of Essex and the whole of the South West of England.

James Mottershead, chairman of the National Farmers' Union poultry board, said: 'If bird flu gets into turkeys that could cause holy carnage; that could cause real supply chain issues in the run-up to Christmas. I know of some instances where seasonal turkey producers have been affected.'

Farms which have an outbreak and are classed as infected could have to stop raising birds for up to a year, he added.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs said around one billion birds a year are produced by British farmers and officials were working to 'eradicate the disease as quickly as possible'.

Quality Street's greener sweets

SWEET lovers will soon be noticing a change to their boxes of Quality Street.

The twist wrappers on the chocolates are to be made from paper instead of plastic as Nestle switches to greener packaging in the coming months.

The confectionery giant will also be wrapping KitKats with plastic that is 80 per cent recycled.

Replacing the cellulose-foil Quality Street wrappers on nine of the 11 sweets will mean billions fewer bits of plastic in its supply chain.

The other two sweets use just foil and will stay the same.

Nestle said that, unlike cellulose, the new wrappers break down easily and are accepted in household recycling.

125 fans die in football crush

AT least 125 fans died after a crush at an overcrowded Indonesian football stadium in one of sport's worst ever disasters.

Many victims were trampled to death in a stampede while hundreds more were injured after police fired tear gas at the 42,000-capacity stadium in Malang, East Java. Violence had flared at the end of Saturday's match after Arema FC lost 3-2 to rivals Persebaya Surabaya.

Thousands of Arema supporters invaded the pitch and threw missiles. Witnesses said police reacted by firing tear gas 'continuously and fast'. Many surged towards the exits where they suffocated or were trampled. The violence also spread outside. One fan said: 'The stadium turned into a smoke-filled battleground.'

FROM PAGE 17

safe and they reckoned it would take seven years to close it down,' says Mr Houchen. He set up the South Tees Development Corporation, acquired the site through a compulsory purchase order and set about demolishing it.

'I didn't want to be known as the mayor who spent seven years closing down a steelworks. We're going to do it in two – and come in under-budget.'

After all the apocalyptic predictions emanating from so much of the financial commentariat last week, it is somewhat reassuring to walk around something straight out of an apocalyptic blockbuster, safe in the knowledge that it is about to burst into life once again.

This whole area was once famous for the iron, chemicals, steel and ships it produced. It is now reinventing itself as hub for new industrial technology, the so-called 'hydrogen economy' and advanced manu-

facturing. A new £4 billion gas-fired power station is going in and will use decarbonised gas. And I see pile-drivers laying the foundations for the new £400 million SeAH Wind plant. This site will employ 5,000 people in the construction phase and then a regular workforce of 750. They will build and export the main shafts of the giant turbines for the next generation of offshore wind farms. It will be the largest factory of its kind in the world.

Ben Houchen is adamant that all the new government proposals will 'turbocharge' these areas.

His one caveat is the Government itself. 'We need Whitehall to approve these Investment Zones fast. But there is a natural inertia within Whitehall. It is there to slow down the pace of change, which many people might see as a good thing, because it allows for consistency and confidence, rather than radical change.'

'But when you are trying to create radical change, like the economic growth plan that

the Government has, then you need to break through.

And if you're going to allocate 40 investments before the end of the year, you can't wait while civil servants spend 18 months evaluating all the individual criteria. Right now, the technology is moving faster than the civil servants.'

His best-case scenario is that his Investment Zone applications will be approved this year. 'Then you're going to see major building works starting in the first quarter of next year,' he says. 'If we get those four zones approved by Christmas, you would be looking at north of 5,000 new jobs over the next four to five years.'

Out on the streets, most people don't want to talk about the Budget. The few that do are mainly in the 'bloody politicians – what do you expect?' camp.

Mark, a cladder from Darlington, blames the Tories for everything but adds that he has never voted and never will. Sedgefield financial adviser Duncan Maw goes

the other way. 'That Budget was fantastic. Everyone's going on about one tax cut but things like the reversal of the IR35 [an irksome tax hurdle for self-employed contractors] will make a massive difference. The place is full of self-employed engineers.'

At the offices of the North East England Chamber of Commerce, chief executive John McCabe gives a careful welcome to the growth plans. 'There is some urgency to these Investment Zones given all this turbulence but we've got to make sure that planning and infrastructure match accelerated growth,' he says.

It's too soon to say if Mr Kwarteng's growth plans really will see dozens of proto-Singapores popping up around the country. There are plenty of other monumental problems ahead. But the last 'Big Bang' – in the City or London – worked wonders for Britain's revenues. Let's hope the weekend's thunderbolt on Teesside is the harbinger of something similar.

THE Iran of my mother, Leila, exists only in photographs. I remember first seeing them as a small boy in the 1980s, tucked away in drawers in the sitting room of our London home.

They thrilled me: snapshots of a lost world of excitement and glamour. Here was my mother in a black cocktail dress, laughing at a high-society event, surrounded by friends in Chanel dresses and Savile Row suits.

There she stood with her fellow debutantes, some sporting quivering fashionable beehive hairstyles; or picnicking with a male friend, unmarried and 'unaccompanied'. Above all, in almost every photo, I could see her long hair, cascading freely round her shoulders.

My mother lived with her sister Tamara and their parents in Shemiran, a verdant suburb of Tehran that was, and is today, home to Iran's ruling class.

This was when Iran's Shah — or King — was at the peak of his imperial power. And while Iran was officially a Muslim state, in Shemiran, near the Shah's palace, Iran's elites gathered to dance, drink alcohol and talk business. They

by David Patrikarakos

worked and played like Parisians of the Orient. It was a life of chauffeurs, nannies and staff by the dozen, of cocktail parties and ski trips and endless shopping sprees.

But if Iran was an Eden for many, then it's no surprise that a serpent lurked there, too.

My grandfather, Naim, knew that the cleric or 'mullah' Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini was on a mission. He wanted to inflict fundamentalist Islam on to his country, and to end what he deemed the Shah's 'Western decadence'.

For years, exiled in Iraq and Paris, Khomeini preached against these elites. His sermons were smuggled into Iran on cassette tapes and illicitly spread throughout the country. They stoked fanaticism — as well as legitimate grievance at the Shah's increasingly autocratic and unequal society.

In 1979, egged on by their exiled leader,

Khomeini, revolutionaries took to the streets to overthrow the Shah. They purged the army and police. They took their revenge on everyone they felt had opposed them. They murdered with impunity — often lining up their enemies against walls and shooting them.

In came strict religious laws — especially on Iranian women, who were ordered to cover their hair with the hijab. Make no mistake: the 'Islamic Republic' that replaced the Shah was born in violence and oppression and blood.

My grandfather decided that our family should leave Iran for Britain. He made the right choice. One of the first places Khomeini's followers went to was Shemiran.

Like all revolutionaries, they hankered after a bit of the good life. Our home, with its large grounds and many rooms, was occupied by the new regime's security forces.

Family legend has it that just before she left, my grandmother, Marcelle, suffered the indignity of having to negotiate with these thugs so she could take as many of our family's possessions as possible to their new life thousands of miles away in Hampstead.

Some years later, my mother met my father, Takis, who was studying in Britain having fled his native Greece after it had experienced its own military coup.

I grew up to become a political author and war reporter. Perhaps, given my family's history, that was always going to be my destiny.

TODAY, death stalks Tehran's streets once again.

At least 76 protesters have been murdered across the country by the regime's goons, trying — and so far failing — to suppress an outpouring of frustration and rage.

The protests have been led by young people, many of them women, and have carried on for more than two weeks. They began after Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish woman, was arrested in Tehran on September 16 by officers from Iran's notorious 'Morality Police' — state officials charged with ensuring the country's absurd religious rules are met.

In practice, they spend their time controlling the way women act and dress. Mahsa's crime? Showing too much hair under her hijab. For this, she was dragged off to jail. The Iran my mother knew in its 1960s heyday feels tragically distant now.

Mahsa was pronounced dead three days after she was taken into custody — where she was supposedly being 're-educated'.

The police claimed she collapsed and died due to heart failure — but, obviously, no one believes that.

Witnesses say she was beaten as

'I am sick of having no freedom'

the police bundled her into their van. According to some accounts, she suffered such a tremendous blow to the head that she was probably medically dead by the time she reached hospital.

Protests began the day after Mahsa's funeral and haven't stopped since. Tens of thousands of people — among them many women — have poured on to the streets in more than 100 towns and cities across Iran, enraged at her death and at four decades of oppression.

They know what they want. They chant it in the streets. 'Justice, liberty, no to mandatory hijab!' they cry. 'Death to the dictator!' they roar. They tear down images of Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, who succeeded Khomeini in 1989. This bloodthirsty regime has responded in the only way it knows: with extreme violence.

The hated brownshirts beat and torture and shoot. Thousands have been arrested; more brave young people will die.

The Ministry of Intelligence has texted every mobile user in Iran, warning that anyone taking to the streets will be punished under

PICTURES: GETTY IMAGES EUROPE



Glamour: David's mother Leila in Iran in the 1960s and, above, protests in Tehran on Saturday

the strictest Sharia Law. But still the people protest.

Mark my words: this is the beginning of the end of the Islamic Republic. It may not come imminently. For now, the security forces remain loyal: the regime takes good care of them. Iran's security chiefs know that if the mullahs fall, they fall with them.

But the regime has lost its legitimacy — and will never recover it. These protests are merely the latest in a series that have strafed Iran since 2019, when more than 1,500 protesters were reportedly killed.

In truth, Covid-19 gave the regime a stay of execution, forcing people into their homes. But the anger and defiance has remained.

It is difficult to speak to ordinary Iranians. The regime is hunting them down. It has shut off the internet across large parts of Iran. Anyone caught speaking to the media — especially Western outlets — is likely to be imprisoned and even killed.

But I have contacts in Iran: I know some of those resisting. Using 'VPNs' — technology that hides an internet user's location — they can circumvent blocked social media sites, organise and mobilise.

And soon they may get help from halfway across the world. The Tesla tycoon Elon Musk, now the richest person in the world, has said he plans to allow Iranians to use his Starlink satellites to access the internet.

This could be a game changer, as it has proved — and as I have seen for myself — for the Ukrainians fighting Vladimir Putin.

At the heart of these protests are Iran's women. It is they who have bravely ripped off their oppressive hijabs — the ultimate symbol of the hated regime. It is they who are publicly cutting off locks of their own hair, in what has become an act of defiance against the regime.

On Thursday, I spoke to Shirin, 25, who has been risking her life to protest in recent days. 'For as long as I can remember I have had to worry about how I dress, how I walk, how much make up I wear, in case it upsets an old man in [clerical] robes,' she told me. 'I am sick of having no freedom to wear what I want, no freedom to travel where I want. I am sick of the endless economic crisis. I want a job and a future.'

Her family are terrified. Her father begs her not to go onto the streets in case she becomes another Mahsa. But she won't listen. 'I've had

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Symbol of defiance: A woman holds up a hank of her cut hair in a protest outside Iran's embassy in Istanbul

Over 40 years ago, this writer's family fled Iran, their home seized, their 'Eden' lost. Now, a new revolution has begun — led by the very women the Islamic regime has been most anxious to oppress

Protests that could spell the end of the MULLAHS' TYRANNY

calendar from the West, the youthful protesters are known as the '1380s' generation. Teenagers and those in their early 20s are leading the protests — they despise the revolutionary class that seized power decades before they were born.

This generation has known social media all their lives — and that is crucial. Iranians, as my mother could tell you, have always looked West, but the internet has been essential in shaping the 1380s' understanding of the world.

They can see what they're being denied: they hold it in the palm of their hands.

'We want a new revolution,' says Arash. 'We want democracy. That

'Blood is the price and we're paying it on the streets'

is the only way that we can achieve freedom and justice.'

His calls are being echoed around the world. In London, hundreds have gathered to express their rage and disgust at the regime's behaviour. Last month, police were forced to step in after crowds surged toward the Iranian embassy in Kensington, London.

Meanwhile, the hacker group Anonymous is disrupting Iranian government accounts, helping the protesters by bringing down state websites — including those peddling regime propaganda — when the mullahs need them most.

This week, I took out those old photos of my mother in her youth in Tehran. Once more, I saw what her country used to be.

But this time, for the first time, hope mingled with grief. Iran will rise again — *is* rising again.

Instead of the Shah and instead of the mullahs, it will one day have true democracy.

The time is fast approaching for Shirin and Arash. And the most beautiful irony of all? That one of the world's most misogynistic regimes will one day — and before long — be brought down by the bravery of women.

■ **DAVID PATRIKARAKOS** is a Contributing Editor at *Unherd* and the author of *War In 140 Characters: How Social Media Is Reshaping Conflict In The Twenty-First Century*.

enough,' she says. 'I have nothing left to lose.'

Arash, 21, is a student at Tehran University. As he recounts his own disgust, he burns with passion. 'This regime belongs in the Middle Ages,' he says. 'It does not respect the most basic human liberties, women's rights or the rules of freedom of speech. Their language is the language of death. They do not abide by any international laws.'

Arash has seen his peers beaten and arrested every day. 'I know people who've lost their eyes, with broken arms, with massive injuries to their backs. I've seen people murdered with brute force.'

'I've seen hand-to-hand fighting, protesters hit on the head with batons. Blood is the price — and we are paying it in the streets.'

He points not just to the regime's violence, however, but to its dizzy-

ing corruption and incompetence. Despite the revenues from its vast oil and gas resources, more than 25 million Iranians — almost one in three — were living in poverty last year.

Of course, Western sanctions on Iran over its nuclear programme and human rights record have played their part. But billions of oil dollars have disappeared into the pockets of corrupt officials.

Between the 1979 revolution and 2022, the country's per capita income increased by less than 1 per cent. In August, inflation hit 52.2 per cent.

There is only so long you can oppress a population. What makes these protests different is they are not about vote-rigging or corruption, but the very essence of the regime.

In Iran, which uses a different



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Daily Mail Reporter

BRITISH academics are calling for the Rosetta Stone to be returned to Egypt after more than 200 years in the UK.

Experts have signed a petition saying the treasured 2,200-year-old slab, which enabled the decoding of hieroglyphs in 1822-1824, should be handed back.

Joyce Tyldesley, professor of Egyptology at the University of Manchester, said it was the right time to return it.

She added: 'Talks could start now in the 200th anniversary year of the decipherment of the stone to send it back to continue its journey. There would be no harm in that.' Speaking to The Sunday Times, she added: 'Why is it in London as

'It would be a big draw'

opposed to in Cairo?' Her calls were echoed by Dr Nicky Nielsen, a senior lecturer in Egyptology, also at the University of Manchester.

He said the stone would be a 'big draw' for the Grand Egyptian Museum in Giza, which is now being built. It comes as the Greek prime minister is preparing to speak to Liz Truss about the prospect of Britain returning the Elgin Marbles – which are also in the British Museum.

The petition calling for its return was launched in Egypt and has since been circulated around Westminster. French soldiers stumbled upon the 760kg (120stone) slab near the town of Rosetta in 1799. The British then took the stone after defeating the French in Egypt in 1801. It became the key that unlocked the mysterious hieroglyphic script of the pharaohs, because it bears a decree written in three ways: in hieroglyphics, demotic (the Egyptian language of its era), and ancient Greek.

The decree, issued in 196 BC and

attesting to the devoutness of ruler Ptolemy V, was easily translated from the ancient Greek.

But it took a further 20 years after the stone's discovery for French scholar and polymath Jean-Francois Champollion to crack the other two languages – partly through deciphering the hieroglyphs by identifying names of people in the text. The British Museum is holding a special exhibition featuring

the stone from October 13. Curator Iona Reguluski said: 'We are telling the story of decipherment of Egyptian hieroglyphs which happened 200 years ago, so that's what we're celebrating...'

'Also, it provides us with an opportunity to contextualise the story a bit better and to tell more complete stories about the role of the stone in the decipherment, but also how it came to the British Museum.' Miss Reguluski said the

stone had been in Paris's Louvre 'for a very brief period' in 1972 and was also moved during the Second World War for its protection.

The exhibition will also feature the 3,000-year-old illustrated Book of the Dead of Queen Nedjmet, alongside a set of vessels that preserved the organs of the deceased. And the mummy bandage of Aberuait, which has never been displayed in the UK, has been loaned by the Louvre.

Will British Museum now face a fight to keep the Rosetta Stone?

Treasured: The slab is held in the British Museum



Greeks hope to enlist King in battle for Elgin Marbles

By Claire Duffin

THE Greek prime minister is hopeful King Charles will aid his latest bid to return the Elgin Marbles to Athens.

Kyriakos Mitsotakis believes Britain is edging closer to handing back the sculptures and will raise the issue with Liz Truss on a visit to London later this year.

The 2,500-year-old marbles were taken from the Parthenon between 1801 and 1812 by Lord Elgin, ambassador to the Ottoman Empire. The Greeks say they were stolen, but the British Museum Act 1963 prevents ownership of artefacts being transferred from the museum.

Mr Mitsotakis, 54, told The Sunday Times he had a 'good personal relationship' with King Charles and believes he is supportive. The King, he said, has 'a Greek heritage which he values and cherishes', adding: 'I think the mood is changing in the UK.'

It has emerged that Greek businessman John Lefas, 71, is investing millions to fly British MPs to Athens to lobby them to overturn UK law and allow the marbles' return.

Lord Vaizey, a former Tory culture minister, has already taken the trip as part of the Parthenon Project, The Sunday Telegraph reported.

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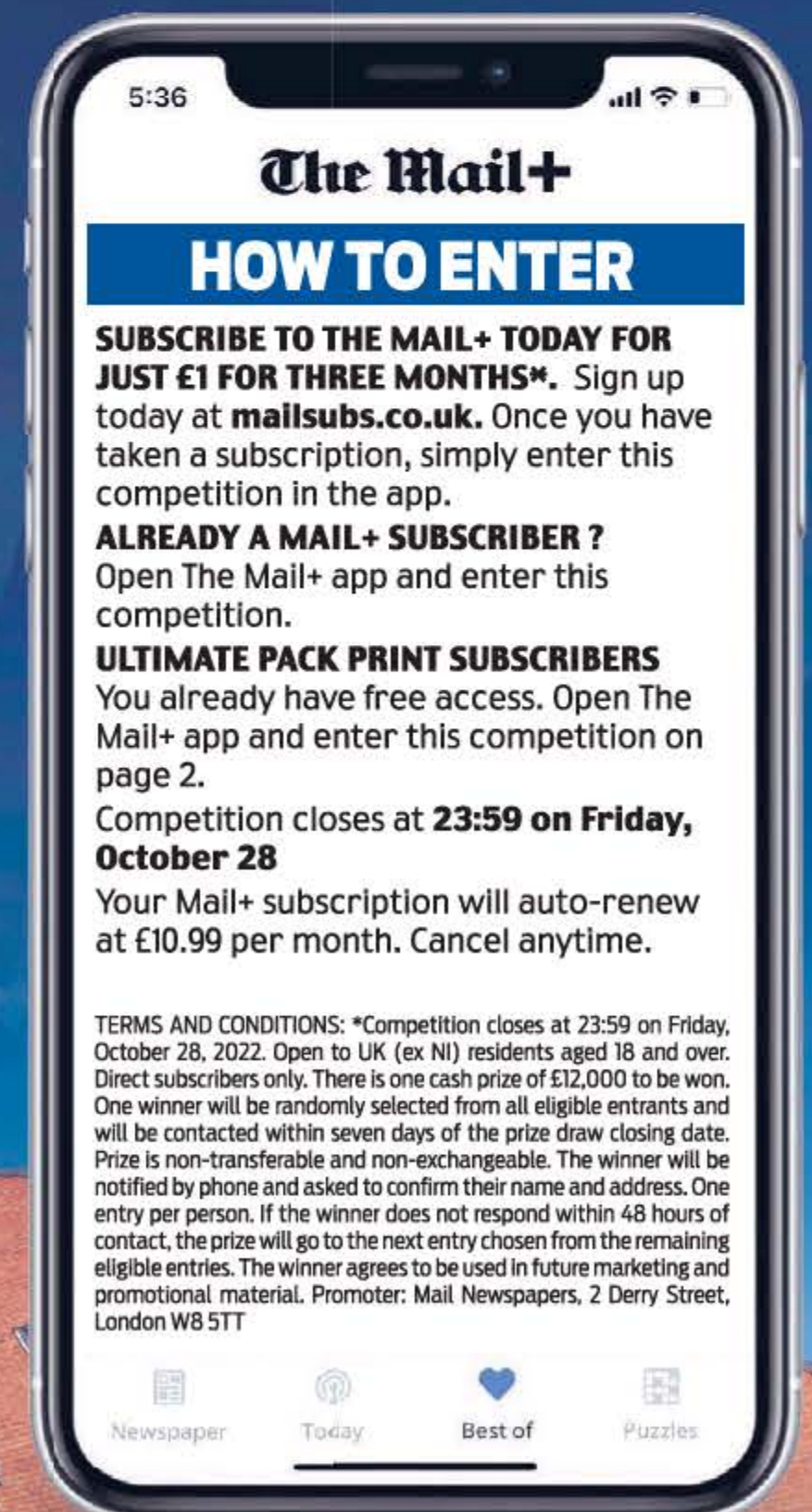
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Read. Watch. Listen. Play

IN THE final extract from his riveting new book on how the Sussexes' relationship with palace staff deteriorated, VALENTINE LOW recalls the impact of the couple's shocking TV interviews — and examines the truth behind their claims...

THE first intimation that Meghan might be a victim — as well as a possibly rather difficult employer and sister-in-law — came in an ITV documentary.

Filmed in a garden in Johannesburg, during the Sussexes's 2019 tour of South Africa, she'd spoken to presenter Tom Bradby about how she'd struggled with life in the spotlight, both as a newlywed and as a new mother. He'd then asked her what the impact of all that pressure had been on her physical and mental health.

Looking vulnerable, almost as though she was trying to hold back tears, Meghan said she'd found it hard, and added: 'Thank you for asking, because not many people have asked if I'm OK. But it's a very real thing to be going through behind the scenes.'

A preview of Bradby's documentary was screened for the media while William and Kate were on a tour of Pakistan that October. And, inevitably, the resulting coverage, with its headlines of 'Meghan: My Struggles', overshadowed coverage of the last day of the Cambridges' tour.

William and Kate's team was not happy, it seems, and saw it as a deliberate attempt to knock the couple out of the headlines. Relations between the two households became quite tense.

The documentary had also shown not only Meghan's evident pain but also how far Harry and William had drifted apart.

Asked by Bradby about the rift between him and William, Harry had chosen not to deny it, but said instead: 'We are certainly on different paths at the moment... As brothers, you know, you have good days, you have bad days.'

William, home after the Pakistan tour, appears to have been taken aback at such a stark portrayal of his brother and sister-in-law's unhappiness. He realised they were in crisis.

The day after the documentary aired, William WhatsApped his brother to ask if he could come and see him. This put Harry and Meghan into a spin. What should they do?

Initially, Harry was in favour. Then he spoke to his brother again, and asked him whom he would tell.

WILLIAM explained that he'd have to clear his schedule, which would mean telling his private secretary. At that point, Harry told him: Don't come.

He was so concerned that William's team would leak the visit to the Press that he would rather not see his brother than risk it getting into the papers. To everyone who knew what was going on, this was heartbreaking.

It highlighted the dysfunction at the heart of so many royal relationships, and how members of the Royal Family so rarely pick up the phone to speak to each other directly. Instead, they communicate via the apparatus around them. And the result is mistrust and division.

IN HER interview with Oprah Winfrey in March 2021, Meghan would discuss her mental fragility at greater length.

She talked about the pressure she'd felt from online abuse and the critical media coverage, pressure that she once described in a

podcast as 'almost unsurvivable'. Watching her talk about her pain, and describe how she did not want to live any more, is an uncomfortable experience.

Most people would think such an expression of despair could be

rooted only in truth. And yet a succession of decent people, all of whom had believed in Meghan and wanted to make her position work, came to be so disillusioned that they began to suspect that even her most heartfelt pleas for help

It was the first real sign of the trouble to come. In a bombshell TV interview, Harry pointedly said he and his brother were on 'different paths'. William was blindsided, but when he suggested a crisis meeting, the response was heartbreaking...

WHY

Harry snubbed William's offer of a secret summit to heal their rift

ROYAL BOOK EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT
by Valentine Low

were part of a deliberate strategy that had one end in sight — her departure. Perhaps, they say, nothing the palace could do was ever going to be good enough.

'She was looking for examples of us failing her from the beginning,' believes one former staffer. 'We were having to prove that the institution would bend over backwards to make her happy.'

'It felt like that wasn't what she wanted, but that she wanted to be rejected.'

The feeling among like-minded staff was that Meghan wanted to leave a trail of evidence behind, so that when the time came for the couple to leave the monarchy, she

would be able to say: 'Look how they failed to support me. They left me with no choice but to leave.'

Some staff saw the problem as inextricably linked with the couple's fury about some of the press coverage, which they felt was sexist and even racist.

It also stung that Meghan had been dubbed Duchess Difficult because of the high staff turnover in their household.

As one source put it: 'The way I see it, their view of not getting institutional support was that they were not getting permission to blow up the [royal] institution's relationships with the media.'

Others suspected that, in the





Picture: DOMINIC LIPINSKI/AP



Crisis: Meghan with ITV's Tom Bradby in 2019; top, Harry and William close but so far apart in London, July 2021

end, Meghan wanted to make money for herself. And the only way she could do that was by leaving behind her royal life in the UK and returning to America.

Too cynical? Perhaps. But the sad truth is that the relationships between Meghan and her advisers were in such a sorry state that this is what they genuinely believed.

Some argue that she never really wanted to be accepted by the Royal Family. That may be true.

But it's also true that if the institution had tried harder, and if she'd been more willing to adapt herself to palace life, she could have been one of the Royal Family's greatest assets.

The idea that she wanted to be rejected is challenged by her lawyers, Schillings.

Instead, they say she had a 'clear desire to fit in'.

'She left her country, career and life in North America to commit herself fully to her new role and made every effort to honour that commitment.'

IF THE danger signs were there from the beginning, so were the warnings.

The Sussexes' private secretary

Sam Cohen told two key courtiers — the private secretaries to both Prince Charles and the Queen — that if it all went wrong with Harry and Meghan, the palace needed evidence of the duty of care the institution had shown them.

The 'duty of care' was crucial: '[Sam] was a broken record with them on that,' said a source.

By the time Meghan gave her interview to Oprah Winfrey, however, the palace had lost the argument over duty of care.

The duchess had hijacked the narrative by making it all about her mental health, which meant everything the palace had done to support the couple — including giving them a team who'd have done anything to help them succeed — was simply forgotten.

Instead, the duchess was able to point out all the times that the organisation had failed her.

One of them was when she went to the palace's head of HR in January 2019, saying she needed to get help with her mental health issues. She was given a sympathetic hearing but sent on her way, as was inevitable: HR is there to deal with employee issues, not members of the Royal Family.

Meghan would presumably have known that, so what was she doing

there in the first place? Laying a trail of evidence would be the cynical answer. So desperate that she did not know where to turn would be the more charitable interpretation.

In the Oprah interview, Meghan also made the startling claim that she went to one of the 'most senior people,' saying she needed to go somewhere to get help — only to be told it wouldn't be 'good for the institution'.

It is a strange thought: would anyone really say that to a pregnant woman?

Until one hears from the other person in the room, it's difficult to know what to make of this.

However, the truth remains that Meghan appears to have been in a bad place. And Harry knew she was suffering.

Yet when Oprah asked why he didn't go to his own family to say his wife needed help, he said: 'I guess I was ashamed of admitting it to them.'

We can all understand such feelings of shame: mental health can be hard to talk about.

However, there is also something not quite right here.

Since 2016, Harry had devoted much of his energy to Heads Together, a campaign he had launched with William and Kate to try to persuade people to overcome the stigma surrounding mental health.

Years before, he'd decided to seek help himself after suffering his own mental crisis. Could he not have helped his wife do likewise?

And if he couldn't, he must have met scores of people through Heads Together who could have offered help and support. As one well-informed source said: 'He would have known exactly where to turn, who to call, what to do.'

Elsewhere in the Oprah interview, Meghan talked warmly of Julia Samuel, the psychotherapist who had been a friend of Princess Diana and remained close to Harry. She had, Meghan said, 'continued to

be a friend and confidante'. Julia Samuel would also, presumably, have been an ideal person for the couple to go to for help.

ANALYSING Meghan's interview with Oprah is a complicated business, because some of it simply isn't true. That doesn't mean, however, that *all* of it isn't true.

One of the moments that is glaringly misleading is when Meghan tells Oprah: 'When I joined that family, that was the last time... that I saw my passport, my driver's licence, my keys. All that gets turned over. I didn't see any of that any more.'

In the first six months of her marriage, there had been foreign holidays in Italy, Canada and Amsterdam, to say nothing of the couple's honeymoon. Then in 2019, Meghan visited Ibiza, France, Italy and New York (twice). It would have been a challenge to do all those trips without a passport.

I'm not going to go through every example in the interview of statements that are untrue, or misleading, such as her claim that they actually got married three days before their wedding. It's instructive, however, to look at one of Meghan's central claims: that the palace was not doing enough to stand up for her.

She told Oprah: 'Not only was I not being protected... they were willing to lie to protect other members of the family, but they weren't willing to tell the truth to protect me and my husband.'

The overriding issue that concerned her was a newspaper story about Kate crying after a bridesmaid's dress fitting for Princess Charlotte that took place before the wedding.

'The narrative with Kate — which didn't happen — was really, really difficult,' Meghan told Oprah. 'I think that's when everything changed, really.'

The truth is that, after the dress fitting, Meghan had become obsessed with trying to persuade the palace press office to put something out denying the story.

However, they were equally adamant that it would be a serious mistake to start briefing about personal stories relating to differences between members of the Royal Family.

NOT only did they not want to brief against other royals, but they feared it would create a precedent, making it harder in future for them to avoid commenting on personal tittle-tattle.

It would also fan the flames of the story, ensuring it continued to fill the pages of the newspapers for several days to come.

This became a major point of contention between Meghan and her media advisers.

On Oprah, Meghan went further than denying the Kate-in-tears story, however. Instead, she said, the reverse had happened.

'She was upset about something pertaining [to] flower-girl dresses, and it made me cry, and it really hurt my feelings.'

It was not an attractive performance: Meghan had spent months complaining about how her reputation had been smeared in the Press, and now she was doing the same to Kate, who quite clearly was never going to respond.

The story of Kate's tears was not the first time Meghan had tried to persuade the press office to brief journalists about an issue that was bothering her. The other concerned the departure of a member of staff, whose settlement deal contained a non-disclosure agreement.

Despite the employee being legally obliged to remain silent, the Sussexes — who say they didn't know about the non-

disclosure agreement — repeatedly tried to get their communications secretary Jason Knauf to brief journalists about what Meghan saw as the reason behind the employee's departure.

Knauf refused, because he disagreed with Meghan's interpretation of events. He also thought briefing against the individual was wrong.

LOOKING back on the saga of Harry and Meghan's rift with the Royal Family, there are still questions to be asked.

Were the senior courtiers in the royal institution — Prince Charles's private secretary Clive Alderton; and the Queen's, Edward Young — unaware of Meghan and Harry's deepening unhappiness?

Or were they burying their heads in the sand? Did they let their personal dislike of Meghan prevent them from seeing the very obvious dangers that lay ahead?

ONE former palace insider believes the way the developing crisis was handled was 'incompetent beyond belief'.

'I think Meghan thought she was going to be the Beyoncé of the UK,' said the insider. 'Being part of the Royal Family would give her that kudos.'

'What she discovered was that there were so many rules that were so ridiculous, she couldn't even do the things she could have done as a private individual...'

'It required the decision-makers to sit around a table and say: "OK, what are we going to do about this? What do you need to feel better? And what can we give?"'

The situation wasn't helped by Harry and Meghan's deteriorating relationship with both Young and Alderton.

Meghan apparently saw the Queen's private secretary as 'an inflexible, bureaucratic figure' and Harry was just as dismissive of the two senior courtiers as she was.

So another view is nothing could have saved the situation. The two sides were just too far apart.

CRUCIALLY, it was the Queen who took the view that unless they were prepared to abide by the restrictions that applied to working members of the Royal Family, they couldn't be allowed to carry out part-time official duties.

But the Sussexes wanted their freedom to make money AND to dip their toes into U.S. politics. There was no way to reach an agreement on that point.

There is one final thought on this, from a surprising source: perhaps the Sussexes' departure from the country and the Royal Family was not the untrammelled disaster so many think it was.

One courtier, who knows Harry and remains upset about what he and Meghan did, said: 'Part of me thinks Meghan did Harry the greatest kindness anyone could do, which was to take him out of the Royal Family, because he was desperately unhappy in the last couple of years of his working life.'

'We knew he was unhappy, but we didn't really know what the solution would be. She came along and found the solution.'

■ ADAPTED by Corinna Honan from *Courtiers: The Hidden Power Behind The Crown*, by Valentine Low, to be published by Headline on Thursday at £20. © Valentine Low 2022. To order a copy for £18 (offer valid to 15/10/22; UK P&P free on orders over £20), visit mailshop.co.uk/books or call 020 3176 2937.

Nurse sues NHS for 'imposing racist ideology'

'Whiteness problem' lecture upset her

A WHITE Christian nurse is suing an NHS Trust she claims has been forcing a 'racist ideology' on to its students.

Amy Gallagher, 33, is taking legal action against the Port-

By Eiran Jane Prosser

man Clinic in north London, part of the controversial Tavistock and Portman NHS Trust, in a legal case she believes is the first of its kind. The mental health nurse, who

is in the final stages of a two-year course in forensic psychology at the trust, claims she has been discriminated against on the basis of race, religion and philosophical belief.

She was upset after allegedly being forced to take part in a lec-



Christian: Amy Gallagher, 33

ture titled 'whiteness – a problem of our time' in October 2020, which said 'the problem of racism is a problem of whiteness'.

At a meeting with her course leader, Miss Gallagher explained that she did not consider herself racist and that she took a 'colour-blind' approach, meaning she does not judge people by skin colour. She says she was told this is now 'outdated'.

Miss Gallagher also attended a compulsory lecture on racism in which the lecturer 'spoke negatively about Christianity while no other religions were mentioned'. She filed a

'Colour-blind view is outdated'

formal complaint to the Tavistock Trust in January last year. And in March this year she filed documents at the Central London County Court.

According to The Daily Telegraph, Miss Gallagher thinks it will be the first legal case that hinges on 'lack of belief'.

She argues a white Christian woman cannot believe in critical race theory, which states racism is systemic and institutional.

The Tavistock and Portman Trust said it could not comment on claims that were part of an 'ongoing legal case'.

Under-45s lead exodus of hospital nursing staff

TWO-THIRDS of nurses who left the NHS in the past year were under 45, damning analysis by a think-tank shows.

Nearly 23,000 younger nurses quit, up 26 per cent from the previous year for this age group, said the King's Fund.

It found that almost a quarter of all those who left were under 30, showing the exodus is not driven by retirement.

Last week analysis by the Nuffield Trust revealed that more than 40,000 nurses have left in the past year, one in nine of the workforce.

The King's Fund added that from June 2021 to June this year, there was a 25 per cent rise in the number leaving, with 7,000 more going compared with the previous year.

According to the most recent NHS staff survey, 52 per cent had felt unwell due to work-related stress and 40 per cent felt burnt out.

Nurses are also angry over pay with voting about to start on strike action for the first time in the Royal College of Nursing's 100-year history.

The Department of Health said there were over 29,000 more nurses in the NHS than in September 2019.

October 3, 2022

ON THIS DAY

FROM THE DAILY MAIL ARCHIVE

OCTOBER 3, 1983

NEIL KINNOCK, just elected Labour's youngest leader at 41, began his stint with a soaking on Brighton beach as he fell at the sea's edge while posing for photographers. But the embarrassment of that Canute-like ducking was nothing to the problem of a row between Labour's Left and Right over rising pacifism and one-sided nuclear disarmament in the party.

OCTOBER 3, 1985

PRINCE ANDREW says real love will descend on him 'like a lightning bolt' — if it comes at all. The 25-year-old, nicknamed 'Randy Andy' for his amorous escapades, told two million Woman's Hour listeners on BBC Radio 4 yesterday he did not know what he was looking for in a wife. 'I've not had any chance to think about it,' he said.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

GWEN STEFANI, 53. The Grammy-winning U.S. singer-songwriter was frontwoman of No Doubt, which had hits with Don't Speak and Hey Baby. Described as looking like a '1950s platinum bombshell meets futuristic Japanese cartoon', she said that without



make-up: 'I just don't feel right. People think I'm insane, but I feel like it's a part of who I am that day and who I want to be. I wear it every day, no matter what.'

DANNY O'DONOGHUE, 42. The Dublin-born musician fronts rock band The Script, which had a UK No. 1 with Hall Of Fame, has sold 20 million albums and supported Paul McCartney on tour. In 2013 O'Donoghue performed for the Queen in a BBC Radio 1 studio, and said the thank-you letter she sent him afterwards is 'the most amazing thing I've ever seen'.

BORN ON THIS DAY

JOHNNY BURKE (1908-1964). The U.S. lyricist wrote Pennies From Heaven and the Oscar-winning Swinging On A Star. He worked on at least 43 films, and once had four songs on the U.S. 'Hit Parade' at the same time. His longtime writing partner Jimmy Van Heusen said: 'Johnny was, in fact, a born poet. Imagery and easy style, pretty but not cloying, that was his trademark. His imitators can't be counted.'

PIERRE BONNARD (1867-1947). The French artist was famed for his paintings of women bathing. In 1975, an Italian car worker paid £32 for two paintings including a Bonnard at a lost property auction. It took 40 years to find it had been stolen in London in 1970, and was worth £500,000.

ON OCTOBER 3...

IN 1970, future prime minister John Major married Norma Johnson in South London.

IN 2005, Porridge and Two Ronnies star Ronnie Barker died, aged 76.



WORD WIZARDRY

GUESS THE DEFINITION: Inculcate (coined mid 1500s)

A) To teach persistently and earnestly. B) To examine. C) To lock up.

Answer below.

PHRASE EXPLAINED

Draw stumps: meaning to stop doing something; it derives from cricket in which the stumps are removed from the ground by the umpires at close of play.

QUOTE FOR TODAY

'My children are not royal, they just happen to have the Queen as their aunt.'

Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon (1930-2002)

JOKE OF THE DAY

WHAT is an egg's least favourite day of the week? Fry day.

Guess The Definition answer: A

Compiled by ETAN SMALLMAN and ADAM JACOT DE BOINOD



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INSPIRE

Strong women
don't have
'attitudes', we
have standards

MARILYN MONROE

She's lost her brother to cancer, been viciously mugged and seen her fashion label collapse into administration. But despite an ordeal that would floor many, designer AMANDA WAKELEY is more excited than ever for her creative future

Everyone
has knocks...
**LIFE IS A
BATTLE**
you just
muscle up

AMANDA WAKELEY tells me she has 'never really been wired to hide under the duvet when life throws a whole lot of crap' at her. 'My partner [financier Hugh Morrison] says: "Life is a battle — we just muscle up."

'I think that's quite a male approach,' she says — but it's a mantra she's made her own. 'Actually, it *is* a battle. Everyone's had knocks. It's how you deal with them.'

Indeed. In the past two years, Amanda has had to 'muscle up' to the sort of harsh blows that

INTERVIEW by
Rebecca Hardy

would floor a heavyweight boxer. Sixteen months ago, her luxury fashion label, into which she'd ploughed the best part of her adult life and was, she concedes, a child of sorts, collapsed into administration.

Little more than a week later, her 'fearless,

TURN TO NEXT PAGE



Picture: NEALE HAYNES



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Would you suck a sea moss sweet to GET SLIM?

by Harry Wallop

MOST of us will have used it to decorate sandcastles on the beach. But now sea moss, found on the shores of Ireland, Cornwall and the Caribbean, is being touted as a superfood akin to kale and kefir, with supposed wonder properties.

Apparently, *chondrus crispus*, as it's known in Latin, can aid weight loss, is great for nails and skin, boosts the immune system, helps digestion and is full of minerals and vitamins.

It comes in many forms, from capsules and gummy sweets to a powder, which makes it easy to add to smoothies and stews.

'We've seen a huge spike in sales — up 36 per cent over the past month compared with the month before,' says Adrian Boswell, a food buyer at Selfridges, which now stocks sea moss supplements.

He adds the product's recent popularity is down 'in part to exposure on social media and celebrity advocates. Sales have been so strong that we have just added tonics to the range, alongside the gel and mylks [vegan milk shakes]'. And there is no bigger celebrity advocate in the world than Kim Kardashian, who has shared with her 74 million Twitter followers that 'sea moss smoothies are really good'.

SOME experts are dubious about the health claims, however. Dr Stacey Lockyer, senior nutrition scientist at the British Nutrition Foundation, points out there is a lack of human studies about the effects of sea moss. She adds that, while high in fibre, B vitamins and a range of minerals including iron, zinc and iodine, 'all of these nutrients can be found in everyday foods and you can get the amounts you need if you follow a healthy, balanced diet'.

Also, there are risks connected to digesting too much iodine.

'Taking high doses of iodine for long periods of time could change the way your thyroid gland works,' warns Dr Lockyer.

Simon Frederick, founder of Pardasa, which makes sea moss gel, says: 'My dad is from St Lucia in the Caribbean and it's been a big thing over there for a very long time, but it's only taken hold in the UK recently.'

While he agrees that some of the health claims are based on



Picture: GETTY / ISTOCKPHOTO

CARIBBEAN SALTY SNACK

Gordon Watkins 100% High Grade Organic Sea Moss, 100g, £13.99, gordonwatkins.co.uk

THIS has been 'wild crafted in Grenada' in the Caribbean, the packet says. Densely packed, it is full of dried moss that is grey and tastes very salty.

It makes lots of health claims: 'Contains 92 of the 102 minerals the body is made up of; known to treat various illnesses and health conditions; boosts the immune system.'

Nutritionists say a healthy, nutrient-dense diet can play a role in supporting immunity, but there is no one specific food or nutrient that can ensure a healthy immune system. **2/5**

'WEIGHT LOSS' SWEETS

PJ Pharm Sea Moss Gummies, 60 gummies, £19.99, pjpharm.co.uk

THESE look and taste a bit like an apple-flavoured gummy bear, though less sweet. If you want to ingest sea moss, this is an easy and tasty way to do it, with two sweets containing 1.2g of sea moss and just 13 calories.

It makes various claims on the bottle, including that sea moss 'helps with weight loss', which is quite punchy, though experts do say that sea moss has a very high fibre content, which can have the effect of making you feel full for longer — reducing your hunger pangs. **4/5**

ECO-AWARE POWDER

Time Health Organic Irish Sea Moss, 50g, £10.99, timehealth.co.uk

THIS is a fine, grey powder with a distinctly sea-salty tang to it. You add a quarter of a teaspoon (1g) to a shake, smoothie or even a soup or stew and it thickens it, acting almost like a vegan gelatine.

The recommended dose is 1g, which contains 0.4g of fibre — only a fraction of the 30g daily recommended amount.

The British maker says its sea moss is sourced from 'pristine Canadian waters' and that it will plant a tree for every order placed. **2/5**

MINERAL-BOOST GEL

King Moss Premium Sea Moss Gel, 500g, £19.99, kingmoss.co.uk

ONE of the more popular ways to take sea moss is in gel form. It's a rather strange, glutinous substance that has the consistency of wallpaper paste and is tasteless. You must keep the jar in the fridge.

You add a tablespoon or two to smoothies, porridge or soups to boost your mineral intake without affecting the flavour of your meal.

King Moss says you can also eat it straight out of the jar, which I wouldn't recommend, unless you enjoy your mouth coated with glop. **3/5**

anecdotal evidence, rather than rigorous, peer-reviewed medical studies, he adds: 'I've seen people really helped, especially those with gut problems and irritable bowel syndrome.'

So which are the most interesting products on the market, what do they promise to do and what do they taste like?

CHEWY SEA VEGGIES

The Cornish Seaweed Company, 100% Organic Irish Moss, 20g, £5, planetorganic.com

THIS is dried seaweed in its purest form. It looks like it was in a rockpool only a few hours ago. Eaten straight out of the pack, it's chewy with a faint hint of whelk — which I rather like.

The company has a licence from The Crown Estate 'to sustainably hand cut all our organic sea veggies' from the Cornish coast. It makes no bold health promises and advises adding a pinch of the stuff to milk and cocoa to thicken a hot chocolate, or use as a vegan gelatine alternative. Clever. **4/5**

IRISH MYLK SHAKE

Rumedii Irish Moss Mylk Shake, 500ml, £6.99, rumedii.com

RUMEDII was started by Gee Williams, who could not find nutrient-dense products for her son King, who has short gut syndrome and autism.

However, it clearly states on the label: 'This product is not intended to treat, diagnose, cure or prevent disease.'

This is a vegan milk shake — hence the 'mylk' moniker — and is made up of Irish moss, oat milk, coconut milk, vanilla and cinnamon.

It is sweet and very fragrant — the sensation is a little like tucking into an Indian dessert in a Mayfair parfumeur. I tried to force it on my kids. None of them liked it! It's creamy, but I find it too rich. **2.5/5**



Sharing life's adventures: Amanda and partner Hugh Morrison

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

incredible' brother Charlie died at the age of 62. The younger of her two brothers, a respected radiologist who was blissfully married with two grown-up sons, Charlie had been battling a brain tumour for 15 months.

His death, she says, came almost a year to the day after the two men who violently attacked her were jailed for a combined total of ten years. Amanda was threatened with an axe and throttled in a tussle for her gold Rolex in 2019.

'It was terrifying thinking I might not survive,' she says. 'It was one of the most frightening experiences in my life, but I'd tried really hard to move forwards.'

'Then, everything came at once,' she says, speaking about these 'big, big blows' for the first time.

'Losing a sibling is huge. I don't think you realise how huge it is unless you've been there. It is heart-breaking and just feels very unfair. But there were silver linings. We had some incredibly happy days and have never been tighter as a family.'

A MONTH before her world was turned on its head, Amanda, Hugh and her family shared 'the most heavenly walk' with her brother at the spectacular Exbury Gardens in Hampshire.

'I will never forget Charlie pushing his nose into the flowers and just doing this.' She inhales deeply. 'Or him saying: "Listen, listen, that's a robin; or that's a this or that." He was so good on birdsong. You hold onto memories of those lovely things, those gifts from nature, don't you?'

'But what I do realise as I speak [to other people] is that so many of us have had significant challenges in our lives. It can be heart-breaking and seem so unfair, but it is the lottery of life.'

'There isn't a day now that I don't wake up and think: "I get to be here today. I'm going to make the most of it." That hackneyed word "gratitude" comes to mind. You realise we don't all get to be here. My brother doesn't get to be here.'

She pulls her huge sloppy cashmere sweater around her. Amanda, whose eponymous label was a favourite with some of the most beautiful women on the planet, such as Catherine, Princess of Wales, Princess Diana and Angelina Jolie, says clothes can be armour. 'It doesn't have to be chainmail,' she says. 'My armour can be a big cashmere sweater.'

'The night before Charlie died, I collected this little one,' she says of hers and Hugh's 18-month-old Labrador, Luna — or 'Luna the lunatic'.

'We had lost our last dog six months before that. We've always had dogs. So every day I had to get up in the morning and get her out, train her, laugh and

get some exercise myself. I had a purpose, and getting outside in nature is fundamental to me.'

'It's hard if you're feeling low, but I can honestly say that there isn't one time when I haven't come back feeling better.'

'Exercising Luna allowed me time to reflect, start processing the grief and then get on with my day. These were big, big issues, but I've never felt like a victim.'

'I began to think how lucky am I to be here, to be able to have a clean sheet of paper [without her luxury fashion empire] and think there are so many things I want to do and so many things I'm excited about — but you do have that moment of unsteadiness first.'

On Saturday, Amanda began her weekly 12-part podcast series, *Amanda Wakeley: Style DNA*, in which she interviews the likes of Trinny Woodall, Grace Dent and James Blunt about how fashion has shaped their lives.

'I always designed because I knew the power of feeling comfortable in your clothes, whether it's a big old cocooning cashmere sweater or a wedding dress that's going to make you feel like a complete goddess.'

'I'm interested in the whole psychology of how wearing something that makes you feel great can really impact your day. And, the counter, how if you don't feel like you've quite got it together, you're not going to have such a good day.'

'Four years ago, I came up with this phrase, discovering your "Style DNA" — and she began to write an outline for a book.'

'Then, I started to think, actually this could be a fantastic podcast.'

'And then Covid happened — and I had new opportunities.'

The informal podcasts make for compulsive listening. Take, for example, Trinny Woodall's confessions about her body dysmorphia and particularly the acne that tortured her through her teens.

'She talked about it all with such raw honesty and good humour,' says Amanda. 'Many of us, as women, deal with our insecurities through laughter. I've never laughed as much as when I interviewed food critic Grace Dent. She's someone who can vocalise what she identifies as "her flaws" in such a self-deprecating, humorous way.'

Amanda is glowing from her early morning walk when we meet in her and Hugh's spectacular glass-fronted apartment overlooking the River Thames in Chelsea.

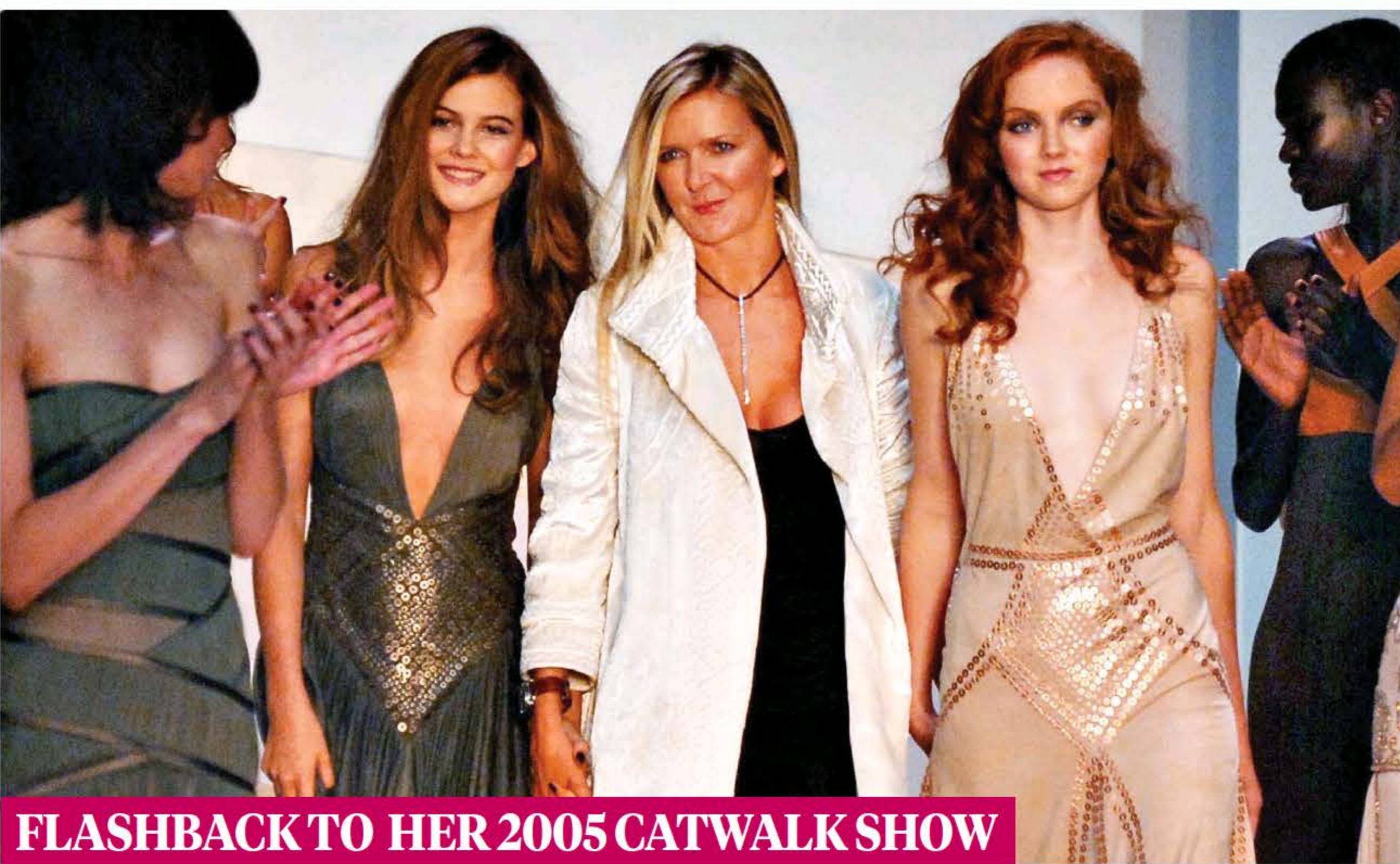
A swan flies past the window and, yesterday, she tells me, she saw a seal. This is about as close to nature as she can get in the city.

Inside, the apartment is sleek, with functional lines and vases of white flowers.

There's also a rather impressive drum kit, which, she tells me, belongs to Hugh.

They've been together for 17 years after meeting at a fashion event in New York 'many moons ago'. Many moons before that they happened to be neighbours

Wakeley fan: The Princess of Wales



FLASHBACK TO HER 2005 CATWALK SHOW

ON TURNING 60...

It's just a number. I'm not going to hardwire my brain to think 'you're so many years'

ON NO CHILDREN...

I was giving so much to my business, I didn't know how to squeeze it all in

ON LABEL COLLAPSE...

It wouldn't have been worth it if it wasn't sad. I'd spent so many years nurturing it

in the States but never met. 'It's sort of sliding doors, which is incredible,' she says. 'I don't think either of us takes it lightly.'

'We share so many common values. As you get older, you really appreciate the importance of shared values and shared references. Gosh that makes it sound really unromantic. It's not. It's a real meeting of souls.'

But no wedding vows? 'We've both been married and we're both committed to each other. I'd never say never, but it wasn't a fundamental part of our relationship. To us, it's about the adventures of life.'

This month, Amanda and Hugh are off to Antarctica with friends, where they are 'not just watching the penguins. We are ski touring, which means we get off the ship in the morning, climb the mountain and then we ski down. It's going to be amazing.'

Amanda's fashion empire went into liquidation five months ago.

'That was sad,' she says. 'You're saying goodbye to colleagues you've spent an inordinate amount of time with. That's tough; really tough. But it wouldn't have been worth it if it wasn't sad, would it? I'd spent so many years nurturing it.'

Amanda doesn't have children. 'I probably never met the right person at the right time and I was very focused on work,' she says.

'However, I look at my incredible relationship with my mother, who is 89, and think: "I'm not going to have that." But I've got other wonderful relationships in my life.'

'I am a big believer in there's no Nirvana. You have children and it's not perfect. You don't have children and it's not perfect. We miss out on things, but I didn't

feel that I could do it all well.' Amanda was 28 when she founded her company with a £20,000 lump sum from her father. The fledgling label was just 18 months old when Princess Diana made her famous.

MY GOODNESS, she knew the power of clothing,' says Amanda. 'It was fun working with her because she was so informal and mischievous. She was great.'

Amanda looks out of the window at the river flowing past. 'In life, we do have to be grateful for every day that we're here, live the moment and treasure the shared experiences.'

Two weeks ago, Amanda marked her 60th birthday with a 'gorgeous' dinner with Hugh. She didn't want a fuss. 'It's just a number. Move on,' she says. 'That's just me.'

'It comes back to that thing that if you think it, you become it. I'm not going to start hardwiring my brain to think "you're so many years". I'm not in denial. What's

more important is how you feel — and I'm feeling vibrant and healthy. I nourish my body with good food, I exercise and I stretch to make sure I feel good.'

'I look at my 89-year-old mother and she's there in skinny jeans, a lovely big Wakeley cashmere and Converse sneakers and she looks great — absolutely great.'

'I think it's a fine line between looking after yourself and accepting that 'yes, I've got a few more lines on my face but those lines have lots of stories'.'

In truth, Amanda has the face of a woman at least ten years her junior. Botox? She laughs. 'I've got friends of all ages and I don't think I know many people who don't have the odd tweak,' she says.

'Inside, though, we've all evolved. Sometimes, even the knocks can be positive.'

'Having a tiny bit more time allows me to be a little bit more reflective. When you're on the hamster wheel of fashion, you're pedalling faster and faster.'

'It's pretty relentless. You sometimes think, when you're spinning

on the wheel, how do I slow it down? Five years ago, I was banging my fist in the studio, metaphorically speaking, saying: "We've got to become greener. We've got to use less plastic. We have to work out a way of having less waste."

'But, when a business is moving so fast, and part of the nature of that business is to be fast-moving, it's hard to take that moment to rethink. In a way, it's much easier to start a business from scratch in a more sustainable fashion.'

'I don't miss designing a collection at the moment because I know I've got new projects in the pipeline. What's fantastic is we still own the brand name, which allows us to explore some exciting new opportunities for licences and collaborations with others.'

'I am a creative director and I love having the freedom just to be that without having a business with seven stores and 65 employees and all that goes with it.'

'One of the conversations we're currently having is about the possibility of reaching a much wider audience with affordable, but beautiful, wardrobe staples.'

'It's so exciting, the thought that many more women could be wearing a Wakeley design that's well-conceived, well-cut, sustainably produced, ethically sourced...'

'Last summer, I had a clean sheet of paper in front of me and could say, "OK, this is hopefully the second half of my adult life. What am I going to do to make a difference? For me, life has always been about having purpose and evolving."

And never hiding under the duvet from life's blows? 'Never.'

■ **AMANDA WAKELEY: Style DNA** is available on all major podcast platforms.

Styling: LIZ HEMMINGS



Limited Edition, £350,
jomalone.co.uk



Make-up Heroes, £85,
next.co.uk

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behind the scenes
video of our shoot
with Amanda at
The Mail+



SCAN ME

HOW TO DRESS LIKE A GROWN UP

Shane Watson



Loafers: The sensible shoe that became (sort of) sexy

SOMETHING to celebrate about fashion these days: useful things tend to stick around.

This is partly because we like to hold on to what works and save our pennies and it's partly because we don't always recognise something's potential right away. Not even if that thing is a slip-on loafer, otherwise known as the new sensible shoe.

Loafers of all shapes and sizes, particularly the chunkier sort, have been in the fashion charts for a couple of years — and this autumn they are everywhere. In my local M&S last week, in the section marked Leather Smart Shoes, there were nothing but loafers on display. You can pick up a Tu loafer in your local Sainsbury's, and in & Other Stories there are 18 styles of loafers — 19 if you count the backless, fur-lined ones.

There's no doubt that if you want a really safe bet for the dreary, puddly months to come, it is a loafer. Even so, I bet you don't necessarily own a pair. Yet.

That is probably because chunky-soled loafers remind Us of school shoes we might have worn a hundred years ago. You look at them and think of Britney Spears in the Baby One More Time video (loafers, overknee socks, micro school skirt), which is not at all the look we're aiming for.

The other stumbling block is the question of when would we actually wear a loafer? Your daughter is pulling on hers with three-quarter grey, wool socks and a short skirt (hoping to look like something off the Miu Miu catwalk). She likes the preppiness of them and the way they smarten up sporty track pants.

But what about Us?

THE answer is loafers plus tailored trousers. Any kind of trouser shape from slim and cropped to wide and straight will instantly look smarter and work-friendly. (In theory, you can wear loafers with dresses and skirts, but for me that always ends up looking too old-school librarian, especially where tights are involved and a pair of boots will always look better.)

Penny loafers are also a new way of tidying up denim and if you were considering wearing pleather trousers — there are almost as many of them around as there are loafers — a cropped black pair looks best finished off with a plain or horsebit-buckle loafer.

Something about this masculine neat shoe makes leather look chic and everyday, rather than rock 'n' roll. In the Gucci show, tweedy trousers were teamed with black loafers and white socks, so no need to worry about the barefoot rule, by the way. Don't wear them with pop socks though; there



Smart look: Kendall Jenner



With denim: Katie Holmes

is something ageing about flat shoes and tights.

As for the style of loafer, the solution to the chunky issue is to err on the side of solid rather than stacked. What makes loafers look modern is a little bit more substance — but that doesn't mean you need to opt for track soles, and I wouldn't.

Kin does a solid-soled loafer that gives you a bit of lift and chunkiness (£65, johnlewis.com) or & Other Stories does a penny loafer with a chunky heel and a rubber sole (£100, stories.com). This is the sweet spot of loafers — not too Miss Moneypenny but not too stompy.

There's room for the classic penny loafer in your wardrobe of course and M&S Collection does an excellent version (£49.50, marksandspencer.com) as does Clarks (£67, clarks.co.uk), but outside the office I think plainer loafers

look better in a colour or with a chunky heel or both. I like Vagabond's in pale beige patent with a silver chain (£125, vagabond.com).

Off-white loafers look surprisingly good, particularly with dark denim or cream or tweeds or plaids.

Loafers with metal details across the vamp — Gucci style horsebits or solid bar buckles — are going strong and they add a bit of dash to plain tailoring. Brown loafers are more casual, and if you like a tassel loafer then brown (£75, dune.london.com) is the way to go.

You can get most of these styles in leopard, mock croc or snake but then the sensible point of them begins to get lost. If in doubt, stick with black.

And if you just can't get your head around loafers — perhaps because you want more height from your shoes — you can always get some platform loafers like the ones Julia Roberts is holding in the promotional picture for her new romcom (£149, lkbennett.com).

Silk headscarf, sunglasses, heeled loafers, it's the new glamour kit. Still pretty sensible though.

How to strike

Corduroy blazer, £49.99 and trousers, £35.99, reserved.com; loafers, £250, meandem.com



Dress, £290, cefinn.com; courts, £279, lkbennett.com; earrings, £32, susancaplan.co.uk; bracelet, £69, ottomanhands.com; ring (worn throughout), £22, orelia.co.uk

Trench coat, £180, cos.com; boots, £120, riverisland.com; bag, £390, demellierlondon.com; earrings, £45, jigsaw-online.com

GETTING dressed in the dog days of autumn, before the clocks go back, can be a challenge. It's still not quite cold enough to break out the opaques, but bare legs and floral frocks feel freezing and look wrong.

So hurrah for the corduroy revival — the perfect solution to transition dressing. Made from cotton, pieces

by Sasha Wilkins

in this versatile fabric let your skin breathe but feel cosy and can be layered with T-shirts, turtlenecks or cardigans.

When I was a young girl, my favourite skirt was a needlecord Laura Ashley number. With that nostalgic thought in mind, I've just invested in a rose-pink Boden needlecord dress.

NEW LABEL YOU'LL LOVE
Atelier Romy

STARTING her career at the age of 15, German-born Sabine Roemer is an award-winning jewellery designer and master goldsmith with more than 26 years' experience in the industry. Having travelled the world working with the top jewellery, fashion and couture houses, she settled in London in 2015 after the birth of her daughter, Romy,



Earrings, £125, atelierromy.com

THE NEW WAY TO WEAR LOAFERS

- WEAR with socks but not tights.
- TRY off-white with dark denim or tweed.
- AVOID heavy-tread soles.
- GO FOR a solid sole.

right cord for autumn

<< Sweater, £210, essentiel-antwerp.com; corduroy pinafore skirt, £130, anthropologie.com; boots, £499, lkbennett.com

<< Corduroy jacket, £280, waistcoat, £145 and trousers, £155, yolke.co.uk; loafers, £229, fenwick.co.uk

>> Floral cord shirt, £110, floral cord jeans, £120, and leather trainers, £110, jigsaw-online.com; bag, £425, kaai.eu

>> Cardigan, £29.99, hm.com; jeans, £230, frame-store.com; boots, £35.99, mango.com; bag, £365, demellierlondon.com

It's just as wearable as my beloved childhood skirt but given a grown up spin with smocked cuffs and tie belt.

This sums up the reinvention of cord. It has left behind its long association with geography teacher's jackets and is now supple enough to be drawn into an elasticated wristbands, puffed shoulders, or fall gently in folds to the calves in a midi dress.

Cefinn's scarlet frock (£290) is a case in point, and versatile enough to take you from work meeting to wedding. As you might have guessed — beige is

out. The new cord is all about jewel-toned pieces and floral prints.

Forget the flapping, unstructured flares of 50 years ago, the wide-leg cords of 2022 have gentle trumpet legs and elastane so the fabric moves with your body and, crucially, makes your bottom look good.

Empowered to go head-to-toe? Try a trouser suit such as Yolke's bold three-piece in cobalt.



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SCAN ME

The one lesson I've learned from life

Jason 'Foxy' Fox

FORMER Royal Marines Commando Jason 'Foxy' Fox, 46, is best known as a presenter on Channel 4's reality series *SAS: Who Dares Wins*. In 2018 he wrote a best-selling memoir, *Battle Scars*. Jason is divorced and lives with his partner in London.

HOW LIVING IN THE MOMENT SAVED ME

I STEPPED away from committing suicide in 2013. The year before I had been medically discharged from the military after 20 years for PTSD (post-traumatic stress disorder) and that's when I lost my way. In the next year I found myself in the emotional state of wanting to finish it.

But I found a brilliant therapist, Alex, and we'd go for walks together. One day there was a kid in the woods, about 18 months old, with her mum. Alex said: 'Pay attention to what the child is doing.' After about half an hour it was



Picture: KEN MCKAY/SHUTTERSTOCK/ITV

clear that this kid was just living in the moment. She did her own thing, fell over, cried, got up again, and did it again. She wasn't thinking about the past, wasn't worried about the future and didn't over-think things. It was such an important lesson.

Towards the end of my military career I'd got married, had a kid and was still going off fighting. I was in a ditch in a horrific gunfight — one of my squadron had just been killed — and that's when my mental health problems began.

I got divorced and had no money and was sleeping on friends' sofas. I couldn't get a job in security because my mental health problems were on my record. I lost the ability to live in the moment and was over-thinking things.

That's how I got so low — it was thanks to therapy and watching that toddler that I learned how to change things.

Eventually, I got a job working as a medic for a TV crew, then a friend at Channel 4 recommended me for *SAS: Who Dares Wins*, which I joined in 2015. On the show I push myself to do things that are scary because it teaches me to live in the moment.

I started a mental health organisation, Rock 2 Recovery, to help veterans dealing with mental health issues like I had, to show them there is a way back.

■ JASON and Ollie Ollerton's fitness programme *Battle Ready 360: The Mission Series* is available at truconnect.fit.

Interview: VICKI POWER

Styling: AMY KESTER, pictures: NATASHA PSZENICKI, hair and makeup: JULIE READ at CAROL HAYES using BOBBI BROWN & BUMBLE and BUMBLE, model: EMELIE at TITANIUM

Pictures: PA/DAVID M. BENNETT/DAVE BENNETT/GETTY

THEN & WOW MELANIE BROWN

The women who look better now than ever before

AGED 24



IN 1999, 'Scary Spice' was at the height of girlband fame but still looked a tad baby-faced. Her cheeks appear slightly flushed and minimal mascara and eye-shadow fail to draw attention to her brown eyes.

AGED 47



TODAY, 'Mel B' is radiant with expertly-applied coverage and a hint of blusher accentuating those angular cheekbones. A smoky eye, bold lashes and a touch of lipstick complete this stylish look.

and launched her demi-fine jewellery brand. Wanting to create designs that have the feel and quality of high jewellery but at an affordable price point, Sabine works with her all-female team to create each piece by hand before it goes into production. Prices start at £89 for a sterling silver gold-plated collarbone chain or gold-plated signet ring.

ALEXANDRIA DALE

ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

SCIENCE-BACKED
SKINCARE

Packed with nourishing ingredients, La Roche-Posay is the number one dermatologist-recommended brand in the UK*

HUGE amounts of us have a slightly dry, irritated skin,' explains consultant dermatologist Dr Justine Hextall. 'As dermatologists we really wish people wouldn't use such harsh products on their skin.'

La Roche-Posay products, which are formulated with the brand's exclusive thermal spring water, are designed to restore skin's moisture levels and support the skin barrier function. In fact, the Lipikar and Cicaplast ranges are so gentle that they are suitable for babies aged from three months. They are also suitable for use on eczema-prone skin and by patients undergoing cancer treatment.

OPTIMAL
SKINCARE

Dr Hextall explains that for optimal skincare, especially for sensitive skin, you need to look for products with humectant ingredients that are going to draw moisture to the skin, such as glycerin, panthenol B5 and hyaluronic acid. She adds: 'Then you want to seal that skin, so you don't lose that moisture, with things like shea butter. Ceramides, which are really important, are like the cement in the brick wall of your skin barrier.'

The hero product in the Lipikar body care range has been created as a soothing moisturiser, providing up to 48 hours of hydration. The unique Aqua posae and microresyl formula in the Lipikar Baume AP+M helps rebalance the skin barrier function and helps reduce the frequency of dry skin flare-ups.

The Cicaplast range has also been developed for use on dry,

Left: Cicaplast Balm B5+, for dry or sensitive skin; Right: Lipikar Baume AP+M, to reduce frequency of dry skin flare-ups



uncomfortable and irritated skin. Dr Hextall says: 'It is formulated panthenol [vitamin B5]. It's unique in that it is humectant, so it draws moisture to the skin, but it's also emollient so it stops loss of moisture. It is very soothing.'

Add in copper, manganese and zinc, along with madecassoside and vitamin E, and the Cicaplast Baume B5+ formula is ideally suited for use on dry skin patches to hydrate and protect skin, thanks to its occlusive barrier-like texture.

If we look after our skin barrier it will look after us. So for gentle, soothing products that we can make part of our everyday skincare routine, Dr Hextall recommends La Roche-Posay.

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INSPIRE

After its post-lockdown slump... Peloton is back with a £25 class we can ALL join

POP music blasts and my spirits soar as I push myself harder, lit by blue spotlights in a studio where cameras film every angle. We're being watched by an audience of 70,456 — and counting.

I am at Peloton's first exercise class opened to the public at its state-of-the-art London studios. I'm under the tutelage of star instructor Leanne Hainsby and the class is being streamed live to tens of thousands of viewers at home.

The fitness platform's popularity soared during the pandemic, when we could only exercise at home. Everyone from Rishi Sunak to Sporty Spice declared themselves a fan, and the glamorous instructors became celebrities in their own right.

Critics scoffed at the cost — its stationary bike with attached screen is priced from £1,345, plus £39 a month to access online classes. But Peloton's cult-like following grew and the company acquired a whopping 7 million members worldwide.

However, when gyms reopened, Peloton's share price plummeted and sales of its bikes — which once had waiting lists — stalled.

Perhaps summing up its flailing fortunes, Peloton was even blamed for the death of the character Mr Big, from TV show Sex And The City, who had a heart attack while riding the bike in the cult show's reboot — And Just Like That — last December.

The firm hopes that opening some of its classes to the public will boost interest — and, so far, the plan seems to be working.

When bookings for the £25 classes opened this summer they sold out quickly, and there are waiting lists for the more popular dates in the coming months.

OF ALL the UK Peloton instructors, Leanne, 35, a former backing dancer for

Taylor Swift and One Direction, is the best known. Her honed physique and 320,000 Instagram followers belie a girl-next-door demeanour. Engaged to fellow instructor Ben Alldis, 29, the couple are Britain's highest-profile fitness influencers. But call her a celebrity at your peril.

'Because of the pressure we're under, it would be very obvious if we were being anything less than ourselves,' says Leanne.

She has relished the opportunity to meet the legions of fans who say she helped save their sanity during the pandemic.

'I want people who meet me to think: "Oh, you're exactly the same",' she says. 'It's hopefully motivating and inspiring.'

'The difference with members being in the studio is there's that magic of being able to feel people's energy.'

I've been a Peloton subscriber since February 2021. I'm obsessed with its instructors and take around five classes a week, so I jump at the chance to get a front



Workout with a twist: Leanne Hainsby (left) and Antonia

by Antonia Hoyle

row (bike) seat for Leanne's 30-minute Pop Ride, curious as to how the virtual experience will translate to real life.

Can I push myself as hard when I know I'm on camera? Is this just the return of the exercise class, albeit with a modern twist?

Peloton's Central London HQ is part film set, part fitness palace. It's open to the public from Friday to Sunday, when bike and tread (running) classes are filmed by producers in glass-fronted control rooms. Attendees must arrive 45 minutes before a class starts.

I'm ushered to changing rooms, replete with designer shower gel and Dyson hairdryers, to get into my exercise kit. We are requested to wear 'non-distracting' clothes. Tops must be kept on and attire must be 'family-friendly'.

I pick some cycling shoes in my size from a rack. They have cleats underneath that attach to the pedals and hire is included in the class price.

When the doors open, we're directed to our bikes. Mine — gulp — is closest to Leanne.

Excitement has reached fever pitch by the time she is ushered in by security staff. Flawless in a crop top, leggings and make-up, she tests her microphone, beaming at us all as the digital clock counts down and we go live.

'This is a moment — for me, for you, for all of us,' she rallies us, rock-star style, as we warm up to Rick Astley's Never Gonna Give You Up. (To her credit, Leanne never claims to be cool.)

As the ride progresses, she gives 'shout-outs' to names on

the leader board — some of whom are with us in person, some at home following the live stream — whose milestones are visible to instructors.

When London Mama Bear, in the studio, is congratulated on completing 400 rides, we whoop. I wonder if I'm becoming too American, but the camaraderie is contagious and any plans not to turn into a sweaty wreck are discarded as I pedal harder.

I'm so busy pondering how Leanne stays immaculate mid-workout (later, she tells me she has a 'sneaky fan' trained on her) that I miss her call out *my* name.

'Where's AntOnTheBike?' she asks again.

Waving my hands hysterically in thrilled acknowledgement, I nearly lose my balance.

By the end, I haven't achieved a PR (Peloton speak for personal record), but I'm not far off.

Leanne is led to the instructors' green room for a 'pat down and a spruce' before meeting us to pose for pictures. Nobody refuses.

'My job is to get people sweaty, but they always apologise when I squeeze them in for a hug,' she laughs, recalling a mother who brought her two children to the studio last weekend.

'They know Mummy rides with Sparkly Leanne and kept poking me — I think they thought I was a real-life action hero or cartoon character who'd come to life. It was a lovely moment. They'd travelled for hours to get here.'

Given that I've journeyed for two hours today, I'm not sure I'll be a class regular when I can just hop on my bike at home.

But for the sense of occasion, I can certainly see the appeal — and whatever the cynics say, I'd wager the classes will be booked up for some time to come.

■ studio.onepeloton.co.uk



DR MAX THE MIND DOCTOR

Let NHS psychiatrist Max Pemberton transform your life

Sorry, but Alexa is making children SO rude!

HAVING dinner at a younger relative's house a few months ago, I inadvertently sent everyone into fits of giggles when I spoke to the Alexa.

'Hello Alexa, could you please tell me what the weather forecast is next weekend, thank you?' I asked. I don't have an Alexa, so I had no idea that this wasn't how you spoke to her. I didn't understand what I'd done wrong.

'Why are you talking like that?' someone asked. I looked blankly. 'You're so polite,' said the host, who is in her 20s. 'You don't have to say "please" or "thank you".' She demonstrated by berating the poor device.

'It just sounds a bit... rude,' I winced. 'It's like having a slave.' Everyone laughed and rolled their eyes at how quaint and old-fashioned I was.

I know it's just a machine and doesn't have feelings, but it still felt brusque and, well, a bit horrible. Surely it's a slippery slope from barking orders at a machine to shouting at real-life people?

So I felt somewhat vindicated last week, when I read that experts have raised concerns that Alexa, Siri and Google Home — voice-controlled devices, popular in homes worldwide — may have long-term consequences for children. The worry is that these machines could impede children's learning skills, critical thinking and — as I'd suspected — empathy.

DR ANMOL ARORA, a researcher at Cambridge University, argued that the devices may affect child development for a number of reasons. When they ask a question they receive a 'specific' and 'concise' answer, but this goes against how children typically learn.

Traditionally, children piece together bits of information to create a web of knowledge, rather than try to assimilate random facts that don't necessarily tie together or have context or, crucially, explanation of the reasoning behind the answer.

So the knowledge they get from the devices may well be

technically correct, but it is nowhere near as enriching as if the child has asked a real, live person the question.

It gives them the knowledge — but not the understanding. Because they don't have to search for the answer, they don't advance their critical thinking or logical reasoning.

And it's not just young children who are affected either. I've noticed this with 20-something doctors who are so used to having every piece of knowledge at their fingertips, thanks to internet search engines, they seem to lack the ability to extrapolate and answer any question they can't Google. They lack the ability to problem solve or to use their knowledge to solve any unusual clinical problems they come up against.

If you think that's alarming, consider Dr Arora's other suggestion: that devices like Alexa might also hinder children's social development precisely because voice assistants can't teach them how to behave politely — there is no need to say 'please' or 'thank you' or use a considerate tone of voice.

'The lack of ability to engage in non-verbal communication

makes using the devices a poor method of learning social interaction. While in normal human interactions, a child would usually receive feedback if they were to behave inappropriately, this is beyond the scope of a smart device,' Dr Arora argued. In other words, Alexa can't tell them off for being rude.

Ready for another depressing fact? Research has shown that children in a home with a device speak to it daily, while talking to their grandparents only every ten days.

A DOCTOR who offered to pray for patients has been forced to attend a course on boundaries. But isn't this an example of a doctor acting holistically? The reality is that prayer can be powerful. I'm reminded of that line by Tennyson: 'More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.'

The same poll found that nearly three-quarters admitted they didn't say 'please' or 'thank you' when speaking to the smart speakers. I can't help but feel this must affect their interaction with people. How do you make the distinction between demanding Alexa play the latest Taylor Swift single and asking someone in a shop for help?

Words like 'please', 'thank you' and 'sorry' are powerful social lubricants. They make the world run smoothly, they signify respect and humility. They are an acknowledgement of the humanity of others. Surely that's incredibly important?

It is myopic that we don't pay

more attention to the impact technology is having on the younger generation.

I think part of the lapse in standards of English is because of technology — texting has meant children aren't used to forming proper sentences.

THESE devices also impact on young people's non-verbal communication — including things such as eye contact. One colleague recently told me how so many children she comes across today struggle to look her in the eye.

I noticed this at a talk I gave to teenagers in a deprived part of London as part of a project to encourage more to apply to university. Afterwards, they dutifully lined up to speak to me and I was astonished by how few of them actually looked at me.

Instead, they stared at the floor and mumbled. I realised they are so used to communicating through instant messaging that they don't know how to interact with someone who is sitting in front of them.

There's no doubt technology has been a force for good. But please don't tell me it isn't also having a detrimental effect on how young people are developing. Thank you.

Follow: @MaxPemberton



Parents-to-be: Molly-Mae Hague and partner Tommy Fury

No shame in being a young mum

FORMER Love Island contestant Molly-Mae Hague is expecting a baby with her partner Tommy Fury. Some have criticised her for being too young to start a family. They argue she has barely lived yet. Gosh, isn't it strange how attitudes change? Just a generation or so ago, 23 would have been a perfectly acceptable age to have a child. My mum had me in her early 30s and was considered a geriatric mother. What's more, Molly has endometriosis, which can affect fertility, so surely, having a baby young is better than risking a lifetime of sorrow by leaving it too late and discovering it's not possible? At a recent barbecue, I was astonished that of the six couples there, five had undergone fertility treatment. All the women had put off motherhood because of their careers and several were now lamenting that decision.

■ LAST week's shocking BBC Panorama investigation into a mental health hospital should make the NHS hang its head in shame. The undercover exposé showed NHS carers lock an autistic woman in a tiny room for nearly a month. Mental health workers also slapped, pinched and swore at patients. While this programme focused on one unit, it's clear this kind of shocking abuse occurs elsewhere. It's not just the examples of blatant abuse that anger me. I worry about the insidious neglect that goes on in so many institutions — where often residents are fed and watered but little else. I know all the explanations for this — poorly paid staff, inadequate training, burn-out from the stresses of the job and so on. But, there comes a point when I just think: enough with the excuses. Things must improve — now!

DR MAX PRESCRIBES... MY FAVOURITE SLEEP AID

IF YOU struggle to drop off at night I can recommend this new chewable anti-stress and sleep supplement. It contains a clever combination of lactoferrin, an anti-inflammatory protein from cow's milk, vitamin B6 and Lactium, a powerful yet natural milk protein hydrolysate that's supposed to induce a relaxed state similar to that in babies when they've been fed. From £34.99 for 15 tablets, leapfrogremedies.com



FROM interest rates to the weekly shop, the cost of living is rising faster than it has for decades. But the question is: has the price of happiness gone up as well? And if so, what can we do about it?

Let's set things straight. Yes, money matters for happiness. If you've ever had to choose between putting food on the table and paying the electricity bill, this is not news to you. While money is not a guarantee of happiness, being without money is a common cause of stress, worry and unhappiness.

I work at the Happiness Research Institute in Copenhagen. No, we don't eat ice cream all day and stare at puppies. We look at data, studies and evidence to understand why some people are happier than others and what we can do to improve quality of life. One of our focus areas is how to decouple wealth from wellbeing. How can we get bang for our buck when it comes to happiness?

This is what hygge is all about. Hygge, a Danish tradition that has recently become a global phenomenon, is, after all, about living the good life on a tight budget. It is the enjoyment of simple pleasures. It is the art of



by Meik Wiking

creating a nice, warm, comforting atmosphere. While inflation is rising, we are all still in pursuit of the good life — and hygge can be a vital ingredient in this endeavour as it does not require a fat wallet. Far from it. Hygge is not extravagant and wasteful, it's about making the best of what you have.

Here are eight ideas on how you can implement hygge to make your home a happier one this winter:

MAKE TIME TO ENJOY SPECIAL FAMILY DINNERS

ONE recent study from the Social Issues Research Centre showed that 47 per cent of Brits said they would like to have more family dinners, either at home or at a family member's house, and 49 per cent of people in Britain consider family dinners to be the most important way of spending quality time together.

Homemade dinners are cheaper, healthier

and more hygge. For the past decade, I've been interested in the question: how can we eat better? Not just from a nutritional perspective but from a happiness one as well.

There's a lot of evidence to support the well-being value of family meals, with studies showing dinners with those nearest to you are associated with higher than average grades for teenagers; a stronger sense of belonging; better communication skills; less obesity and fewer depressive symptoms. In other words, the dinner table is the one place where you can have a positive impact on the physical and mental wellbeing of friends and family.

FOLLOW THE SUN LIKE YOUR CAT DOES

FAMOUSLY, there are three things that matter in property: location, location, location. When it comes to the hygge home, however, it is: lighting, lighting, lighting.

According to the World Health Organisation, people who report inadequate natural light in their homes are at greater risk of depression.

Integrating natural light into homes, or arranging our homes to make the most of the light, will boost your mood and reduce the need for artificial lighting — good for the wallet and the planet. Plan your day by using the path of the sun. My work desk is by the window, where the rays of the rising sun enter the room, whereas we have dinner in a room where the setting sun enters the house. Basically, follow your cat. If there is a strip of light, this is where you sit. Purring optional.

CANDLES REALLY DO HAVE A SPECIAL MAGIC

SMALL changes to your home can have a big impact on your mood. Switch the lamps around, change the decor or just light a candle.

'After I read *The Little Book Of Hygge*, I went out and bought two candelabras and we started lighting them at dinner,' one of my readers told me. He and his wife have three sons: one aged 15 (at the time) and 18-year-old twins. When he first started to light candles for dinner, his boys teased him.

'What's with the romance, Dad? Do you want to have dinner alone with Mum?' But soon he noticed small changes around the dinner table. Time seemed to slow down. The teenagers became more talkative. The change in atmosphere put the boys in storytelling mood.

'They don't just shovel in the food any more, they sip their drinks, they tell us about their day.' Their family dinners now last 15 to 20 minutes longer. By making this simple change, dinnertime is no longer just about food — it is about hygge. And now the boys are the ones who light the candles for dinner.

CREATE A SEASONAL SELL-BY-DATE SHELF

HYGGE is not about having it all; it's about enjoying what you have. It taps into the old virtues of being frugal. It follows the traditions of earlier generations who didn't throw away things because they were broken, but learned how to fix them, to repair clothes rather than buy new ones, to use the food they had rather than let it go to waste.

There is nothing hygge about wasting food. A recent report showed that UK households waste 4.5 million tonnes of food a year — £14 billion worth: that's £700 for the average family each year. Creating a 'retirement shelf' in your fridge should help combat this wastage. It's where you store the foods that need to be eaten soonest, so that you can easily identify and use up these items rather than losing them at the back of the fridge, then chucking them out.

GET STOCKED UP READY FOR WINTER

A WELL-STOCKED pantry is comforting. If there is something to eat at home in the fridge or kitchen cupboard, you can hunker down during events beyond your control, be that a storm or a pandemic.

Stocking up and creating a small pantry also means respecting the ebb and flow of seasonality in nature. Eating seasonally means eating or

LEARN TO SOCIALISE AT HOME

I THINK one of the best things we can give to our children is an understanding of where we can find joy and wellbeing without spending money. Many of us organise our social life around restaurant visits or bars. So if money becomes tight, we risk becoming isolated.

To counter that, suggest to your friends that you set up a 'free fun fellowship', where each member of the group takes a turn in planning an inexpensive activity to host at home (think board games, charades). No wonder hygge has been called socialising for introverts.

preserving foods that are grown and harvested locally. Hygge is also about enjoying the process of stocking the pantry, appreciating the preparation and looking forward to the delicious results you'll enjoy tucked up at home on a quiet, wintry evening. So get stewing, pickling and bottling.

THROW EVERYTHING INTO PIZZA NIGHTS

USE what you have — and make the best of it. Become familiar with catch-all recipes. Do you have some tomatoes, two lumps of cheese, an onion, half a courgette, an almost empty jar of olives and some leftover meat? Good news — it's pizza night! Think soups, risottos, ragouts and casseroles to soak up your leftovers into new meals.

Berries and other fruit that's going off can be turned into jam or put into cakes. Apples, rhubarb or oranges? Melt some sugar in an ovenproof pan, add butter and then the fruit. Let it simmer for a few minutes. Take the pan off the heat and allow to cool for a few minutes. Then cover the fruit with some puff pastry and tuck it down the sides (be careful, as the sugar may still be hot).

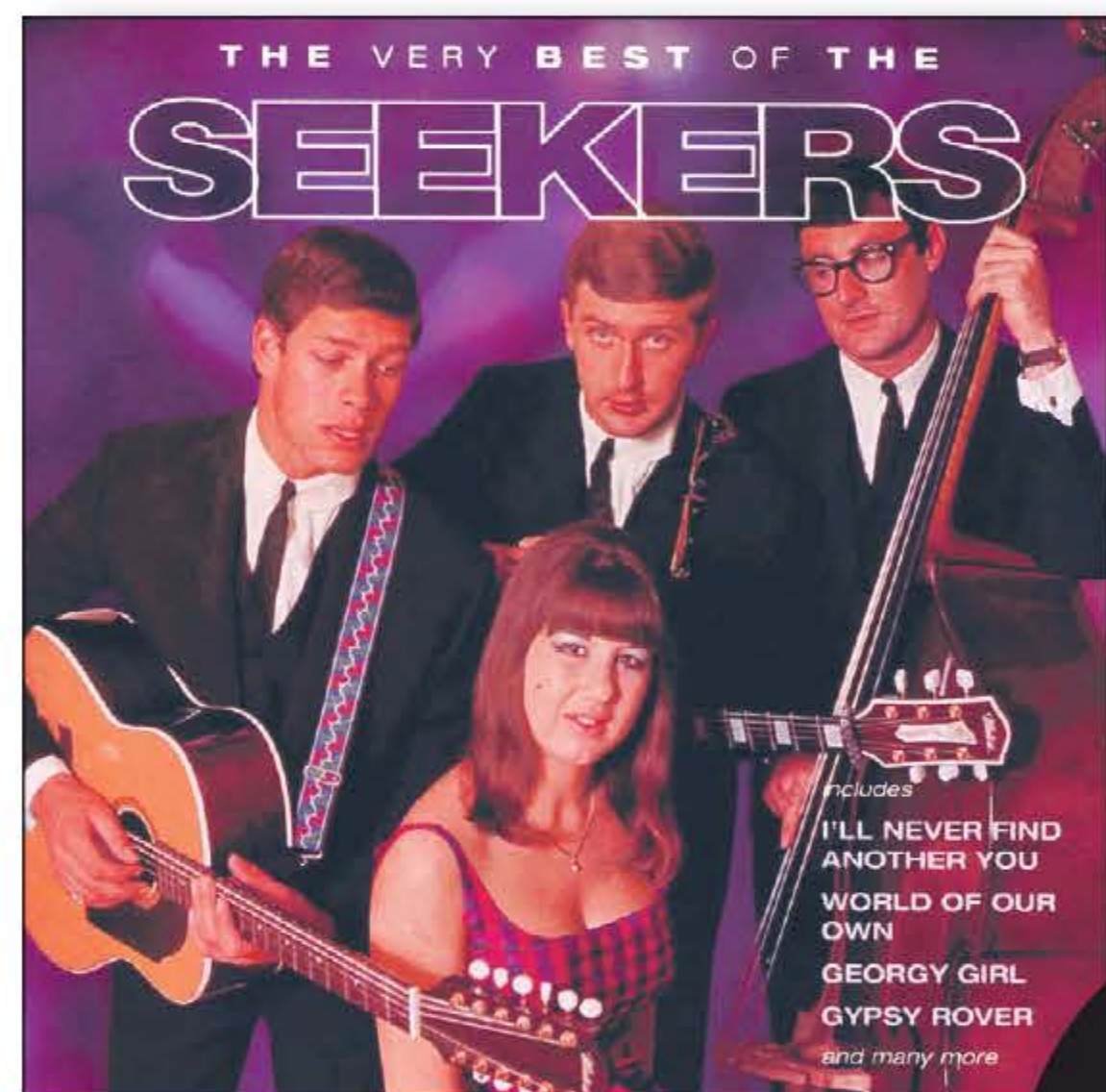
Prick the pastry with a fork and bake in a pre-heated oven at 200c (400f) for 25 minutes. Leave to cool for ten minutes, then put a plate on top of the pan and flip it. Your tarte tatin (if you're using apples) is ready for an afternoon of pure hygge.

FREEZER LISTS ON YOUR PHONE

WHEN you put something in the freezer, you think, 'I can see this is bolognese and I will know it is bolognese three months from now.' The thing is, three months from now, you will have added three other containers of brownish leftovers, so it is now

THE VERY BEST OF THE SEEKERS

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Music2you are delighted to offer this No 1, chart-topping 23-track CD collection for just £6.99 including p&p.

The Seekers have sold over 50 million albums, featuring the bell-like clarity of Judith Durham's vocals, but here's a little-known fact: Tom Springfield wrote or co-wrote many of their million-selling recordings!

Those include *I'll Never Find Another You*, *A World Of Our Own*, *The Carnival Is Over* and *Georgy Girl*, all included on this CD alongside *Morningtown Ride*. So close was Tom to the group he was widely regarded as the *Fifth Seeker*, so how did the group first meet him?

After their long boat journey from Australia to the UK, where the group worked their passage, they arrived in London and were immediately signed by an agent who found them work as a support act in a show being headlined by... **Dusty Springfield**, Tom's fabulously gifted sister. As they say, the rest is history!

TRACK LISTING

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. I'll Never Find Another You | 12. Open Up Them Pearly Gates |
| 2. A World Of Our Own | 13. Kumbaya |
| 3. The Carnival Is Over | 14. Blowin' In The Wind |
| 4. Someday, One Day | 15. The Wreck Of The Old 97 |
| 5. Walk With Me | 16. Lemon Tree |
| 6. Morningtown Ride | 17. Whisky In The Jar |
| 7. Georgy Girl | 18. Five Hundred Miles |
| 8. When Will The Good Apples Fall | 19. The Gypsy Rover (The Whistling Gypsy) |
| 9. Emerald City | 20. South Australia |
| 10. We Shall Not Be Moved | 21. Danny Boy |
| 11. Island Of Dreams | 22. Waltzing Matilda |
| | 23. The Water Is Wide |

Mail readers can now own this wonderful 23-track CD collection for just £6.99 including p&p. To order a copy, either for yourself or as a gift for a friend or loved one, visit music2you.co.uk/seekers

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Pictures: GETTY

As the nights draw in and costs keep rising, hygge is back — with quirky and affordable ways to help keep us cosy

Why cats and candlelight hold the secret to happiness this winter

difficult to tell what this frozen lump of brown is and you may well end up eating spaghetti with duck sauce. So make sure you label your leftovers clearly.

In addition to this, I find it useful to have an up-to-date list on my phone of what there is in the freezer. It is good to know on an evening when you get home from work later than expected that you have something in the freezer that can be put in a pot, left on the stove and — *voilà!* — dinner is ready. Lamb casserole,

minestrone soup and duck ragout are just some of my go-tos.

FALL OUT OF LOVE WITH YOUR CAR

TRANSPORT is more hygge on foot or two wheels. OK, it might not be possible to ditch the car, depending on where you live, but with fuel prices so steep, it just doesn't make sense that more than 60 per cent of short one-to-two mile journeys are

made by a car or bus in the UK. Use your bike for these trips if you can. Yes, I am applying my superpowers as a naive Danish guy who thinks most trips can be made on a bike and that you can have groceries in a basket or backpack, but why not?

After all, the British Household Panel Survey found that people who change from cars to walking or cycling improved their psychological wellbeing — even if the trip took longer.

Hopefully, these steps ignite

an understanding that the good life builds on connection and purpose, and everyday simple pleasures. That our wealth is not measured by the size of our bank accounts, but by the strength of our bonds, the health of our loved ones — and the sound of the ragout simmering on the stove.

■ **MY HYGGE HOME:** *How To Make Home Your Happy Place* by Meik Wiking (£16.99, Penguin Life) is out now.

BEST BOOKS ON...

THE CHANGE OF SEASON

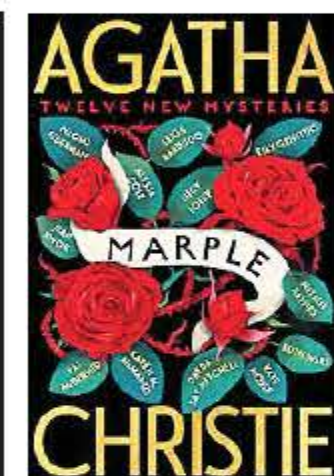
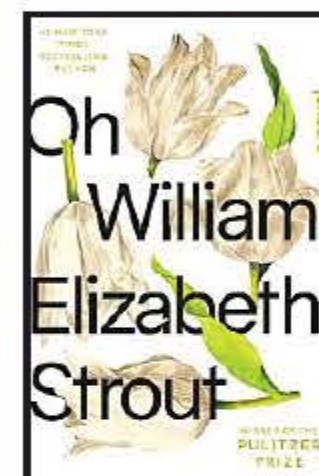


Patricia Nicol

AT THE close of the News At Ten last Wednesday, a weatherman enthused geekily about 'just how quickly it's going dark'. Steady on, I thought, as he explained that in London we have been losing three minutes and 50 seconds of light daily, while in Lerwick, Shetland, a sobering five and half minutes.

The summer of record-breaking heat and drought is well and truly over. But I am still resisting tights and jumpers: in the South, at least, temperatures remain mild.

There is, though, that back-to-school, bittersweet pull: one of summer's end, but also new terms and projects. Novels capture that atmosphere eloquently. Elizabeth Strout's Booker-shortlisted *Oh William!* takes two characters in their autumn years, widowed novelist Lucy Barton and her first husband William, and sends them to Maine together. The weather is 'warm, but not too



warm', rather like Lucy's feelings for William, which veer between fondness and exasperation.

John Williams's poignant *Stoner* is one of the saddest novels I have read. Stoner is an English professor at the University of Missouri. His marriage is disastrous, but he does, briefly, find romantic happiness elsewhere: 'The fall semester began that September in an intensely colourful Indian summer that came after an early frost. Stoner returned to his classes with an eagerness that he had not felt for a long time ...'

The eagerness to return to one's life as autumn gets under way is captured in Leigh Bardugo's *The Disappearance*, the concluding story in *Marple*, a new collection of 12 short stories by contemporary writers all featuring Agatha Christie's elderly sleuth, Miss Marple.

Bardugo's story begins in London, where Miss Marple, having spent several weeks at her nephew Raymond's chilly 'fashionable flat', is hankering for her own cosy cottage home. When her friend summons her back to St Mary Mead to solve a mystery, she is not disappointed.

Throw yourself into autumn projects — but also indulge in the last of any autumnal sun. We're all expecting a harder winter.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS FROM HISTORY

Delightful lost tips from the Daily Mail archives

ORANGE cakes will be more delicious if the icing sugar is mixed with boiling orange juice instead of boiling water.

ORIGINS: Daily Mail, February 11, 1931



Hannah Betts

Better...not younger

SO MUCH about remaining current — and age-defiant — is how you accept and reject trends: knowing who you are, yet being prepared to evolve; embracing change, while fending off the lunatic.

The spring 2022 catwalks featured the following autumn/winter propositions: barely-there foundation; bleached brows; blue eyeshadow; brown lipstick; night beauty (disco-dolly glitter, metallics, crystals, pearls and sequins about eyes); graphic eyeliner plus colour; vinyl, super-shiny lips and deliberately imprecise lids, blush and lips.

Last month's London Fashion Week added bolts of colour; brows like razored dinosaur-spikes and hair that was not so much glossy as glutinous.

I say vote 'yes' for flashes of colour, which invariably feel *au courant*, and barely-there base which a lot of us older birds favour regardless.

In your ditch list, I recommend anything actively damaging (conjunctivitis-provoking eye décor, say), or so barkingly unflattering as to provoke outright mirth (dino brows, haphazard slap, glue hair).

Brown lips would be a hard no, if we're talking that Nineties', greenish-black incarnation that renders teeth yellow and faces unearthly. Not today, Satan. However, hazel hues do work for many warm-toned women, otherwise why would nude lipsticks prove such a perennial?

Glossier has just launched a new Generation G — its ultra-wearable, poutily pre-blotted lip flush — in Malt, a sensual cinnamon that women are going wild for (£14). While the Parisian choice is Chanel's limited-edition collection of Rouge Allure nude lipsticks (£35, chanel.com), plus (permanent) Le Vernis Tawny nail lacquers (£25).

FOR my money, the most joyous means of high-fiving fashion is a blue eyelid.

I know, I know, those of us brought up in the 1960s, 70s or 80s may feel a tad queasy about blue — as baby blue 60s dolly-birds morphed into electric blue disco divas. Blue reappeared in the early 2000s by way of frosted shades swept up to our missing-in-action eyebrows.

Small wonder make-up rebelled with muddy, Kardashian-style taupes. However, it is these that are now feeling a bit naff, dull and old hat, while blue is undergoing a revival.

I've always been a blue broad: as a cool, blue-pink toned type,

Blue eye shadow: Feel the fear — and do it anyway!

Race you to it!

WITH the addition of new blue and green pigments, L'Oréal's fiendishly popular True Match Super Blendable Foundation (£9.99, boots.com) is improving its diversity for those of us with pale, olive, or dark skin. Nine colours join the 48-shade line up, so 99.5 per cent of the world's women are now catered for.

sapphires bring out the chill of my skin, berry of my lips, the green of my eyes.

That said, to demonstrate how blue can work on warm-complexioned 40-pluses, last autumn the U.S. make-up artist Mary Phillips created a fierce look for 53-year old Jennifer Lopez that demonstrated how stunning the

colour can prove when you have bronze and caramel tones.

Feeling intimidated? Start with navy liner, an off-black brilliant at emphasising the whites of mid-life eyes. Victoria Beckham Beauty Satin Kajal Liner in Navy Noir provides a sophisticated, adult take: gliding, comfortable, long-wearing (£22, victoriabeckham.com).

From there, cool girls might experiment with Revolution Beauty's Kohl Eyeliner in Blue (£3, revolutionbeauty.com), a fantastic forget-me-not; warm tones should opt for Revolution's Aqua liner (£3), a sludgy teal.

An all-over wash might be the next tentative step. Morphe 2 Jelly Eye Shimmer in Starry Sky (£10, asos.com) is a buildable iridescent gel that can be styled

to be as subtle or spectacular as required, setting with no under-eye spillage.

Beyond this, the world is your lobster. Kiko is a great place to play, with its single, bright, Smart-colour Eyeshadows from £4.99 (kikocosmetics.com). Zara's Eye Shadow Duos are terrific fun, too. Jealous & Jet (£11.99, zara.com) is a cerulean and azure combo, Cyber & Glitch, a satsuma and verdant turquoise.

A swathe of MAC's Matte Eyeshadow in Cobalt (£17, maccosmetics.com) looks fabulously fresh, its cornflower aspect divine with emerald eyes. MAC's Atlantic Blue is no less powerfully peppy: a vivid Klein.

My all-time favourite palette, Bourjois Le Smoky (£5.29, amazon.co.uk), features the greatest glittering indigo to lend interest to a standard smoky eye.

Or you could disco things up by working in Kiko's New Bright Duo Eyeshadow in Silver & Electric Blue (£8.99). I defy you not to be beguiled.

Follow: @HannahJBetts



Picture: ANTONIO TIRONI / TRUNK ARCHIVE

Blissful bath soaks

■ **Miaroma Lavender Blended Essential Oil** (£5.50 for 10ml, hollandandbarrett.com)

A FEW drops in your bath will encourage sleep and alleviate menstrual and menopausal symptoms.

■ **AROMA Actives Sleep Salt Soak** (£15 for 500g, boots.com)

HEAVENLY magnesium-rich Epsom salts, laced with sleep-inducing valerian, lavender and ylang ylang.

■ **Atlantic Kelp and Microalgae Anti-Fatigue Bath Oil** (£32 for 100ml, renskincare.com)

A SUBTLY scented, de-stressing oil with kelp and plankton.

■ **BAMFORD B Silent Night Time Bath Concentrate** (£72 for 125ml, bamford.com).

AN INTENSELY aromatic skin-softener with geranium, lavender and peppermint.

■ **Temple Spa Drift Away Aromatherapy Bath & Body Massage Oil** (£26 for 100ml, templespa.com)

A SOOTHING cocktail of patchouli, lavender, geranium, frankincense, myrrh and orange.



My icon of the week

KIM WILDE

IN THE 1980s, the star, on tour at 61, cut and coloured her own hair with Clairol Born Blonde (try Clairol Blonde It Up Permanent High Lift, £5.99, boots.com). These days, she rates Dr Hauschka's organic wares (drhauschka.co.uk) and never leaves the house without eyebrow pencil and red lipstick.



Picture: KEN MCKAY/ITV/REX

COSMETIC CRAVING

A PROFESSIONAL took my photograph the other day and very nice it looked too — until I caught sight of my veined and haggard-looking hands. It was with relief, then, that I heard Margaret Dabbs was launching a

Pure Overnight Hand Mask (£30) (margaretdabbs.co.uk), its

accompanying £10 treatment gloves free with purchase until the end of October. The cream is a lovely, bouncy unguent, rich in buriti oil, turmeric, water-lily and calendula, boosting moisture, collagen and elasticity.



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FIXER-UPPERS**Renovation Nation, 4pm, Ch4**

THIS new daytime series follows brave renovators from all over the UK as they attempt to transform crumbling period properties into dream homes. In the first episode, Rob and Tracey (pictured) start the huge task of turning their dilapidated castle in Scotland into a wedding destination, while in Kent, John and Nicky want to give their historic oast house curve appeal.

**DELICIOUSLY DARK DRAMA****Inside Man, 9pm, BBC1**

STEVEN MOFFAT'S blackly comic drama concludes over the next two nights as we find out whether David Tennant's nice vicar is capable of committing murder to protect his son. Meanwhile, Stanley Tucci's death row inmate is doing all he can to find the missing maths teacher before it's too late. Prepare for a shocking finale.

PICK OF TODAY'S TV

THE WALK-IN, 9PM, ITV

WRITTEN by the Oscar-nominated and BAFTA-winning screenwriter Jeff Pope (A Confession, Philomena, Little Boy Blue), this gripping five-part drama is the true story of how a neo-Nazi plan to kill an MP was foiled by an inside man. It begins in 2016 in the months leading up to the Brexit vote, when Britain was more divided than ever and immigration was the hot topic of the day. The brilliant Stephen Graham (pictured) gives a typically convincing performance as activist Matthew Collins, a reformed neo-Nazi now working as a journalist for the anti-racist organisation Hope Not Hate,

who specialises in infiltrating far-right groups with inside moles — or walk-ins — with the goal of publishing information about their activities online. After the horrific murder of MP Jo Cox by a white supremacist, Collins became even more determined to infiltrate one particularly dangerous group, National Action, but with no success. That was until one day in March 2017, when he received an email from a member of the group who revealed details of a plan to kill a second MP, and the men worked together to prevent this hideous crime. The whole of this slow-burning series will be available as a box set on ITV Hub after the first episode has aired.



	BBC 1	BBC 2	ITV	CHANNEL 4
	6.00 Breakfast (HD) 9.15 Rip Off Britain (HD) The latest scams doing the rounds. 10.00 Crimewatch Live (HD) New series. Appeals for information from the public about crimes. 10.45 Northern Justice (AD,HD) 11.15 Homes Under the Hammer (AD,R,HD) Properties in Wallasey, Ilkeston and Salford. 12.15 Bargain Hunt (AD,HD) Charlie Ross presents the show from the Royal Cheshire County Showground. 1.00 BBC News at One ; Weather (HD) 1.30 BBC Regional News ; Weather 1.45 Doctors (AD,HD) Jimmi struggles to absorb the drama of the last few days. Finn's pet chicken isn't well, and he decides Princess can help. 2.15 London Kills (AD,R,HD) A cruelly displayed corpse leads detectives to make questionable decisions. 3.00 Escape to the Country (AD,HD) Sonali Shah helps a couple to find a new home in Cornwall. 3.45 Antiques Road Trip (HD) Mark Hill joins Roo Irvine in Scotland. 4.30 The Tournament (HD) Knockout quiz, hosted by Alex Scott. 5.15 Pointless (HD) Quiz show, hosted by Alexander Armstrong. 6.00 BBC News at Six ; Weather (HD) 6.30 BBC Regional News ; Weather	6.30 Bargain Hunt (AD,HD) 7.15 Antiques Road Trip (R,HD) 8.00 Antiques Roadshow (BSL,R,HD) From Brodie Castle in Moray. 9.00 BBC News (HD) 12.15 Politics Live (HD) The latest stories from Westminster and beyond. 1.00 Chase the Case (R,HD) Strategic game show, hosted by Dan Walker. 1.45 Eggheads (R,HD) Quiz show, hosted by Jeremy Vine. 2.15 Gardening Together with Diarmuid Gavin (R,HD) The horticultural designer offers advice and tips on gardening. 2.45 The Great Northern Garden Build (R,HD) The creation of RHS Garden Bridgewater in Salford. 3.45 Home Is Where the Art Is (AD,R,HD) Artists create pieces for people they have never met. 4.30 Politics Live Conference 2022 (HD) Coverage of the Conservative Party gathering in Birmingham. 5.15 Flog It! (R,HD) Paul Martin visits Ickworth House near Bury St Edmunds in Suffolk. 6.00 Richard Osman's House of Games (HD) With Toby Anstis, Kerry Howard, Evelyn Mok and Joe Sugg. 6.30 Strictly: It Takes Two (HD) Rylan chats to the couple who were eliminated at the weekend.	6.00 Good Morning Britain (HD) Morning magazine featuring a lively mix of news and current affairs, plus health and entertainment features. 9.00 Lorraine (HD) Entertainment, current affairs, fashion news, showbiz stories and celebrity gossip. Presented by Lorraine Kelly. 10.00 This Morning (HD) An entertaining mix of celebrity chat, lifestyle features, advice and competitions. Including Local Weather. 12.30 Loose Women (HD) Celebrity interviews and studio discussion from a female perspective. 1.30 News ; Weather (HD) 1.55 Regional News ; Weather (HD) 2.00 Dickinson's Real Deal (AD,HD) David Dickinson and his team assess items brought in by members of the public in Cheltenham. 3.00 Tenable (HD) Five family members from Southport take part in the quiz, tackling a series of top-ten list questions as they attempt to win the top prize of £125,000. Warwick Davis hosts; Regional Weather 4.00 Tipping Point (HD) Quiz show, hosted by Ben Shephard. 5.00 The Chase (HD) Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. 6.00 Regional News ; Weather (HD) 6.30 News ; Weather (HD)	6.10 Countdown (R,HD) 6.50 3rd Rock from the Sun (AD,R) 7.15 3rd Rock from the Sun (AD,R) 7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond (R) 8.00 Everybody Loves Raymond (R) 8.30 Everybody Loves Raymond (R) 9.00 Frasier (AD,R) 9.30 Frasier (AD,R) 10.00 Frasier (AD,R) 10.30 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (R) Lela's restaurant in California. 11.25 Channel 4 News Summary (HD) 11.30 Help! We Bought a Village (R,HD) 12.30 Steph's Packed Lunch (HD) 2.10 Countdown (HD) Pat Nevin is in Dictionary Corner. 3.00 A Place in the Sun (R,HD) A man and his daughter seek the ideal property on Majorca. 4.00 Renovation Nation (AD,HD) New series. More renovators from all over the UK tackle crumbling period properties. 5.00 Four in a Bed (HD) 5.30 The Perfect Pitch (HD) Three groups of committed campers explore The Highlands of Scotland. 6.00 The Simpsons (AD,R) Homer and Bart transform the fortunes of a losing racehorse. 6.30 Hollyoaks (AD,R,HD) One village resident finds himself in a potentially fatal predicament.
7 PM	7.00 The One Show (HD) Alex Jones and Jermaine Jenas present topical stories and celebrity chat. 7.30 EastEnders (AD,HD) Billy seeks solace in Sam, who offers him moral support, and Alfie takes the boys to the theme park.	7.00 The Crash Detectives (HD) The team must reconstruct the scene of a fatal crash to find out who is to blame. Last in series. 7.30 Mastermind (HD) Specialist subjects include Emily Wilding Davison and <i>The Thick of It</i> .	7.30 Emmerdale (AD,HD) Aaron is back, but it remains to be seen whether Liv can forgive him.	7.00 Channel 4 News (HD)
8 PM	8.00 The Green Energy Scandal Exposed: Panorama (HD) Investigating the wood-burning Drax power station in Yorkshire. 8.30 We Are England (R,HD) The workers behind the two Mini factories in Swindon and Oxford.	8.00 Only Connect (HD) The Jugadores take on the Harlequins. 8.30 University Challenge (HD) Glasgow takes on Queen's University Belfast.	8.00 Coronation Street (AD,HD) Alya pursues a new line of enquiry, while Stu enjoys a family reunion, and Ronnie informs James of a career opportunity.	8.00 Food Unwrapped (AD,HD) Matt Tebbutt unbottles the mystery of sulphites in wine and hangovers. 8.30 Jamie's One-Pan Wonders (AD,HD) Jamie whips up super-speedy smashed lemongrass chicken.
9 PM	9.00 Inside Man (AD,HD) As Harry's dilemma worsens, the fate of his family hangs in the balance. One of Jefferson Grieff's helpers in the outside world delivers a chilling warning to Beth.	9.00 Trouble at Topshop (HD) Philip Green faces hostility from the public after the economic crisis of 2008 and the onset of austerity measures, and Topshop finds itself challenged from all directions.	9.00 The Walk-In (AD,HD) New series. An activist from Hope Not Hate tries to penetrate an ultra-far-right group who are planning to kill an MP. Fact-based drama, starring Stephen Graham.	9.00 24 Hours in A&E (AD,HD) New series. A motorcyclist who lost control and went over the handlebars at high speed is sent for an urgent CT scan, having sustained significant damage to his back and neck.
10 PM	10.00 BBC News at Ten (HD) 10.30 BBC Regional News (Followed by Weather) 10.40 Have I Got a Bit More News for You (HD) Extended edition, with comedian Ria Lina and journalist Matt Chorley.	10.00 Stuck (AD,HD) Dan heads out on a shopping spree. Starring Dylan Moran and Morgana Robinson. 10.15 Stuck (AD,HD) Carla battles to contain Joy's anxiety. 10.30 Newsnight (HD) The day's news stories. (Followed by Weather)	10.05 News (HD) (Followed by Weather) 10.35 Regional News (HD) (Followed by Weather) 10.50 Wear the Rose: An England Rugby Dream (AD,HD) Part one of two. Following the England women's rugby team.	10.00 Naked Attraction (AD,HD) Anna Richardson welcomes a pansexual Twitch streamer from Manchester who's hoping to make a connection in the real world, and a bondage enthusiast from Shropshire looking for a silver fox.
11 PM	11.20 The Graham Norton Show (R,HD) The host — and his big sofa — return, joined by guests Jamie Lee Curtis, Lydia West, Robbie Williams and David Tennant.	11.15 Moonlight (2016) (15) ♦ (HD) A young African-American man grapples with his identity while experiencing the everyday struggles of childhood, adolescence and adulthood. Drama, starring Mahershala Ali.	11.50 All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (HD) Hard-hitting action from the world of All Elite Wrestling, featuring all of the biggest stars on the roster, including Adam Page and Chris Jericho.	11.05 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown (R,HD) Jimmy Carr hosts as Sarah Millican and Nish Kumar take on Jon Richardson and Maisie Adam. David O'Doherty is in Dictionary Corner.
12 MNT	12.10 Ambulance (R,HD) Simon and Jamie help a man with a head injury. 1.10 Weather for the Week Ahead (HD) 1.15 BBC News (HD)	1.00 Black Hollywood: 'They've Gotta Have Us' (AD,R,HD) 2.00 Sensationalists: The Bad Girls and Boys of British Art (R,HD) 3.00 The Hotel People (AD,BSL,R,HD) 4.00 Undercover Hospital: Patients at Risk (BSL,R,HD) 5.00 This Is BBC2 (HD) Upcoming programmes.	1.30 Shop: Ideal World (HD) 3.00 On Assignment (BSL,R,HD) 3.30 For the Love of Britain (AD,BSL,R,HD) 3.55 Unwind with ITV (HD) 5.05 Dickinson's Real Deal (AD,BSL,R,HD)	12.10 Kitchen Nightmares USA (BSL,R,HD) 1.00 Couples Come Dine with Me (R,HD) 1.50 Car S.O.S. (AD,R,HD) 2.40 Britain's Best Woodworker (AD,BSL,R,HD) 3.35 Grand Designs: The Streets (AD,BSL,R,HD) 4.25 Wondrous Wales (AD,BSL,R,HD) 5.20 George Clarke's Flipping Fast (AD,BSL,R,HD)

(R) Repeat. (HD) High Definition. (AD) Audio Description. (b/w) Not in colour. (BSL) British Sign Language.

Family viewing
Generally suitable for all
Caution recommended

REAL-LIFE CASUALTY**24 Hours In A&E, 9pm, Ch4**

THE emotional documentary returns for a 29th series, following patients treated in the same 24-hour period at St George's Hospital in London. Fifty-year-old Graham is rushed in after a motorbike accident, 76-year-old Joyce has breathing difficulties, and Norman has a suspected broken foot after tripping on a paving stone. As always, though, it is the personal stories, rather than the medical ones, that are of the most interest.

FILM CHOICE**Moonlight, 11.15pm, BBC2**

BARRY JENKINS'S flawlessly performed coming-of-age drama follows Miami-born Chiron in three phases of his life. An Oscar-winning Mahershala Ali (pictured) is the drug dealer who acts as a father figure to the lonely boy, whose drug addict mother (Naomie Harris) is an absent carer.

**CHANNEL 5**

6.00 Milkshake! Kid-E-Cats (HD) **6.05 Peppa Pig** (AD,R,HD) **6.15 Oggy Oggy** (HD) **6.25 Blue's Clues & You** (R,HD) **6.45 Fireman Sam** (R,HD) **6.55 Thomas & Friends: All Engines Go!** (R,HD) **7.10 Peppa Pig** (AD,R,HD) **7.15 Peppa Pig** (AD,HD) **7.20 Paw Patrol** (R,HD) **7.30 Milo** (HD) **7.45 Pip and Posy** (R,HD) **8.00 The Adventures of Paddington** (R,HD) **8.15 Ricky Zoom** (R,HD) **8.30 Peppa Pig** (AD,R,HD) **8.40 Daisy & Ollie** (R,HD) **8.50 Odo** (HD) **8.55 Kangaroo Beach** (R,HD) **9.10 Sunny Bunnies** (R,HD)

9.15 Jeremy Vine (HD) The broadcaster discusses the issues of the day.

12.45 Holiday Homes in the Sun (HD) Amanda Lamb, JB Gill and Sam Pinkham head to the Cotswolds.

1.40 5 News at Lunchtime (HD)

1.45 Home and Away (AD,R,HD)

2.15 The Husband with Two Wives

(2019) (PG) (HD) Two young women befriend each other on a college tour and soon discover a shocking secret that threatens to tear both their families apart. Drama, starring Elisabeth Rohm.

4.00 Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun (HD) Following Brits who moved to Spain for sun and a low-cost life.

5.00 5 News (HD)

6.00 Cash in the Attic (R,HD) Chris Kamara and appraiser Jessica Wall go treasure-hunting in Essex.

6.55 5 News Update (HD)

7.00 Police Interceptors (R,HD) A 45-mile cross-border pursuit of a black Lexus is brought to a stop with a little help from a stinger, while the knife crime team arrest a suspected drug dealer.

7.55 5 News Update (HD)

8.00 Motorway Cops: Catching Britain's Speeders (HD) Nicky Campbell narrates a look at how the nation's roads are policed. (Followed by 5 News Update)

9.00 Live: Britain on the Brink Debate (HD) Jeremy Vine hosts a discussion about the current situation.

10.00 Casualty 24/7: Every Second Counts (R,HD) When the red phone rings in the A&E department of Barnsley Hospital, staff rush to help a woman who has arrived in an ambulance and is struggling to breathe.

11.05 999: Critical Condition (R,HD) A man is rushed to the Royal Stoke University Hospital by helicopter after his parachute fails and he slams into the ground 100 feet below.

12.05 Police Interceptors (R,HD) **1.00 Live NFL: Monday Night Football** (HD) San Francisco 49ers v Los Angeles Rams. **4.30 Entertainment News on 5** (HD) **4.40 Wildlife SOS** (BSL,R) **5.30 Peppa Pig** (AD,BSL,R,HD) **5.35 Paw Patrol** (BSL,R,HD) **5.45 Thomas & Friends** (BSL,R,HD)

▲ Particularly liable to offend

Dripping in squid ink, Tucci was like a butcher in a Quink abattoir

STANDING amid the crates of live prawns and writhing squid at Venice's fish market, Stanley Tucci declared: 'I want to eat all of it.'

Licking his lips as a stallholder showed him how to disembowel a cuttlefish, Stanley inhaled the pungent air with relish on his foodie travelogue **Searching For Italy** (BBC2).

He concentrated on some unlucky cuttlefish, learning how to chop them open and extract their balloon-like sac filled with black ink — used to flavour risotto.

By the time he was done, Stanley's hands and arms were dripping with ink, his apron and face liberally spattered, too.

He looked like a butcher in a Quink abattoir.

Next stop was Harry's Bar for a martini, before a duck-hunting expedition to the wetlands.

Venetian nobles used to eat wild duck by the thousand, killed with a bow and arrow. Stanley favours the shotgun.

He lowered himself into a lakeside barrel and watched with approval as a marksman bagged a dozen or more mallards.

He's willing to suffer any discomfort for the sake of a new culinary sensation — or, as he says it, 'queuelinnerry'. But like any true luvvie, he couldn't do

ODD BACKDROP OF THE WEEKEND: The actors are in 1920s costume but some outdoor scenes in KaDeWe — Our Time is Now (BBC4) are shot in modern-day Berlin, with graffiti on the walls, neon signs, traffic lights and buses. The effect is disastrous. It looks like a cheap student production.

this without complaining. 'I'm absolutely frozen,' he shivered. 'I wish I'd brought one of those handwarming things.'

It's all unintentionally hilarious, as is Stanley's pretentious voiceover. 'The Venetians live between earth and water,' he proclaimed, though what that means is anyone's guess.

Best of all is his air of intense artistic appreciation as he savours the most unappetising delicacies: shavings of pork fat on bread for breakfast, or sea salt scraped off the bricks in an alleyway to add piquancy to a portion of fried calamari from a street vendor.

If you fancy that, here's a low-budget alternative.

Why not get a portion of plaice from the High Street chippie and sprinkle it with salt from one of those yellow roadside bins the council use for gritting the streets?

Other reasons to avoid Venice included dried cod (imported from Norway) whipped into a paste with sunflower oil, and a plate of 'golden

WELSH TV VARIATIONS

BBC1: 1.30pm BBC Wales Today; Weather. 6.30 BBC Wales Today; Weather. 8.00 X-Ray. 8.30 Ruck Stars. The Ospreys face the Dragons. 10.40 The Green Energy Scandal Exposed: Panorama. 11.10 Wales: Music Nation with Huw Stephens. ITV: 10.50pm Sharp End. 11.20 Gino's Italy: Like Mamma Used to Make. S4C: 6.00am Cyw. 12.00pm Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd. 12.05 Boi y Rhonda. 12.30 Heno. 1.00 Adre. 1.30 Sain Ffagan. 2.00 Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd. 2.05 Prynhawn Da. 3.00 Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd. 3.05 Prosiect Pum Mil. 4.00 Awr Fawr: Blociau Rhif. 4.05 Awr Fawr: Odo. 4.15 Awr Fawr: Gwddihw. 4.30 Awr Fawr: Sion y Chef. 4.45 Awr Fawr: Awyr Iach. 5.00 Stwnsh. 6.00 Codi Hwyl. 6.30 Rownd a Rownd. 6.57 Newyddion S4C. 7.00 Heno. 7.30 Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd. 8.00 Sgwrs Dan y Lloer. Elin Fflur chats to broadcaster Roy Noble. 8.25 Garddio a Mwy. 8.55 Newyddion S4C a'r Tywydd. 9.00 Cefn Gwlad. 9.30 Sgorio. 10.00 Ironman Cymru 2022. 11.00 Caeau Cymru. 11.30 Gwyliau Gartref.



CHRISTOPHER STEVENS WEEKEND TV

Stanley Tucci: Searching For Italy ★★☆☆☆ Karen Pirie ★★★★★

spaghetti' — pasta soaked in fermented fish sauce and topped with gold leaf.

Any chef who serves that to his diners is probably a serial killer.

The murders are mounting up in **Karen Pirie** (ITV), the most satisfying new police serial for an age.

Lauren Lyle plays the newly promoted detective sergeant

whose dedication to the job is so all-consuming that, when the investigation hits a hitch, she's apt to leap out of her car and scream at the landscape.

If she seems young to be leading a murder inquiry, her sidekick is more junior still.

DC 'Mint' Murray (Chris Jenks) is so eager to please that Pirie refers to him as her puppy. Less

imaginative writers than Val McDermid, who created the characters, might automatically invent a sexual frisson between the two.

But there's no spark between Pirie and Mint, a basic fact cleverly conveyed when she gave him a friendly hug and he froze in horror, like a teenager being cuddled by a drunken auntie at Christmas.

The show's only real flaw is the mumbling.

I needed subtitles on from the start.

You can tell me my TV needs replacing, or I'm going deaf — but every single one of Stanley Tucci's lofty effusions was quite clear.

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written by
Money Mail editor
Victoria Bischoff

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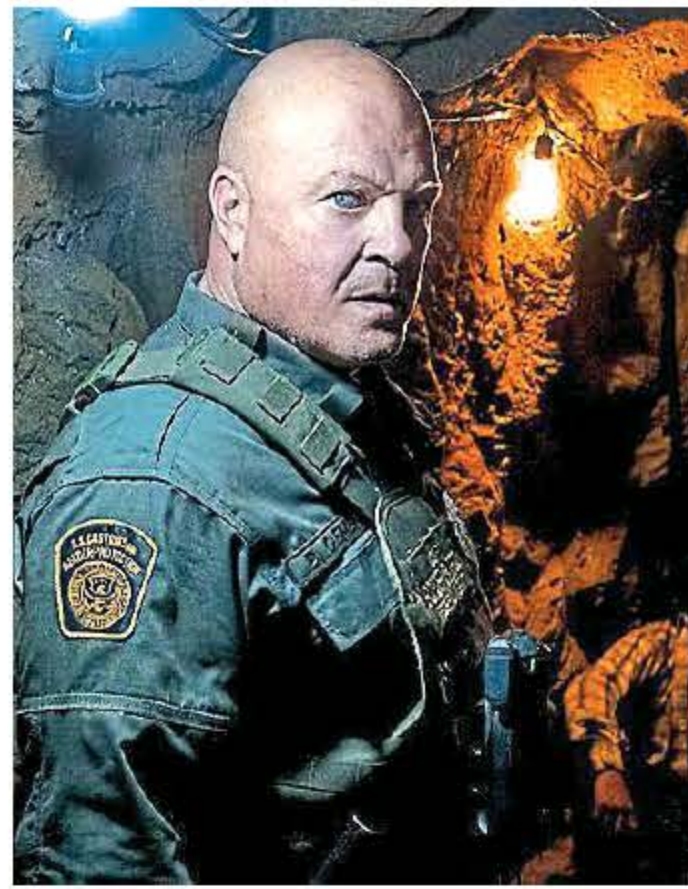
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PICK OF DIGITAL & ON DEMAND TV

COYOTE, PARAMOUNT+

FROM a slew of producers behind *Breaking Bad* comes another powerful show about a seemingly good man sucked ever deeper into a world of crime and violence. The always impressive Michael Chiklis (pictured — who won an Emmy for his performance as Detective Vic Mackey in police corruption drama *The Shield*) plays Ben Clemens, a former agent of the U.S. Border Patrol who has been forced to accept mandatory retirement after 32 years of proudly wearing the uniform. When a terrified young girl — who's a similar

age to his own daughter — begs for Clemens's help, he reluctantly uses his insider knowledge to help her to escape Mexico and enter the U.S. In so doing, Clemens begins a journey that leads to him getting involved with ruthless Mexican cartels, and places his estranged family in mortal danger, while leaving him questioning everything he had once believed. Over the course of six sweaty, uncompromising and exciting episodes, *Coyote* takes its lead character and its audience into some very dark places indeed.



LA DOLCE VITA

Sophie Grigson: Slice Of Italy, 9pm, Food Network

AFTER Sophie's children left home, the cook and food writer (pictured) decided a change was in order, and moved to Italy on a whim. This delightful new ten-part series follows her life in the country's sunny southeastern Puglia region, and it's the details of that, as much as the food, that make it so appealing.



ZOMBIE APOCALYPSE

The Walking Dead, Disney+

AFTER 12 years and 169 episodes so far, the U.S. post-apocalypse

drama is about to shamble to its conclusion with this final block of eight weekly episodes. Don't expect it to go quietly though — when we last saw the gang, they

were preparing for war against the ruthlessly pragmatic Commonwealth of surviving towns. The flagship show might be dying, but its various spin-offs live on — not least a Negan and Maggie show tentatively scheduled for next year.

A CUT ABOVE

The Big Blow Out, 10pm, E4

PREVIOUSLY postponed from E4's schedules, this energetic hairdressing contest, hosted by AJ Odudu starts with a challenge to create a high-fashion masterpiece. The judges, celebrity stylists Sam McKnight and Lisa Farrall, see some remarkable results.

A-Z SATELLITE LISTINGS

ALIBI

Sky 109 Virgin 126

12noon Death in Paradise. **1.00** Father Brown. **2.00** Murdoch Mysteries. **4.00** Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries. **5.00** Unforgettable. **6.00** Major Crimes. **7.00** Rizzoli & Isles. **8.00** Death in Paradise. **10.00** Murdoch Mysteries.

ANIMAL PLANET

Virgin 251

12noon Extinct or Alive. **1.00** Amanda to the Rescue. **2.00** Intruders. **3.00** Legends of the Wild. **4.00** America's Cutest Pets. **5.00** Dr Jeff: Rocky Mountain Vet. **6.00** Extinct or Alive. **7.00** Amanda to the Rescue. **8.00** Expedition Bigfoot. **10.00** The Last Alaskans. **11.00** Crikey! It's the Irwins.

BBC ALBA

Sky 169 Virgin 161

6.00am Alba Today. **5.00pm** Treubh an Tuathanais. **5.15** Su Pic. **5.25** 'S E Iasg a Th'Annann. **5.30** AHAH/No. **5.40** Pip & Posy. **5.45** Piseag & Cuilean/Kit & Pup. **5.50** Stoiridh. **6.00** Rona, Nighean a' Mheirlich/Ronja, the Robber's Daughter. **6.20** Port Paiper. **6.35** Saidheans Sporsail. **7.00** Dealbhan Fraoich. **7.30** SpeakGaelic. **8.00** An La. **8.30** Garradh Phadraig. **9.00** Trusadh — Gin: Spiorad an t-Sineabhair. **10.00** Bannan. **10.30** Julie Fleeting. **11.50** Dealbh is Slighe.

BBC THREE

Freeview 23 Sky 117

7.00pm Top Gear. **7.00** The Catch Up. **8.00** Stitch, Please! **8.30** Hot Cakes. **9.00** Bad Education. **10.00** Ladhoo. **10.50** Ellie & Natasia. **11.35** RuPaul's Drag Race UK.

BT SPORT 1

Sky 413 Virgin 527

11.30am Vanarama National League. **1.00pm** Vanarama National League Highlights. **1.30** The Aussie Rules Show. **2.30** PSA Squash Highlights. **3.30** UEFA Europa League & Conference League Magazine. **4.30** UEFA Champions League Magazine. **5.00** ESPN FC. **5.30** ESPN FC Presents: Gab & Juls. **6.00** Ligue 1 Highlights. **7.00** ESPN FC. **7.30** Live: Serie A. Hellas Verona v Udinese (Kick-off 7.45pm). **9.45** Currie Club. **10.15** BT Sport Goals Reload. **10.45** Around The Block. **11.00** WWE Raw Highlights.

BT SPORT 2

Sky 414 Virgin 528

12noon Fight Night. **2.00** 30 for 30: Unmatched. **3.00** Gearing Up. **3.30** MotoGP. **4.30** MotoGP Chequered Flag. **5.30** Kite Masters. **6.00** Joe Cole Cast. **6.30** Gallagher

Premiership Rugby Highlights. **8.00** Rugby Tonight. **8.45** Around The Block. **9.00** Fishing: On the Bank. **10.00** WRC Review. **11.00** MLB Quick Pitch.

BT SPORT 3

Sky 417 Virgin 529

9.00am Serie A. **3.00pm** ESPN FC. **3.30** Hero CPL Highlights. **4.00** Inside Sailing. **4.30** Michelin Le Mans Cup Highlights. **5.00** European Le Mans Series Highlights. **6.00** UK Pro League Tennis. **8.00** Ariel Helwani Meets. **8.30** Ligue 1 Highlights. **9.30** UFC Ultimate Knockouts. **10.00** Vanarama National League. **11.30** Vanarama National League Highlights.

COMEDY CENTRAL

Sky 112 Virgin 181

11.00am Friends. **9.00pm** Michael McIntyre: Hello Wembley! **10.00** Joe Lycett: That's the Way, A-Ha, A-Ha, Joe Lycett. **11.00** Drunk History.

DAVE (DAYTIME)

Freeview 19 Sky 111

12noon Bangers and Cash. **1.00** BorderForce: America's Gatekeepers. **2.00** Top Gear. **3.00** Rick Stein's German Bite. **4.00** Top Gear. **5.00** Rick Stein's Long Weekends. **6.00** Taskmaster.

DISCOVERY

Sky 125 Virgin 250

9.00am The Last Alaskans. **10.00** Ice Lake Rebels. **11.00** Wheeler Dealers. **12noon** Supertrucks. **1.00** Gold Rush: Dave Turin's Lost Mine. **2.00** Lone Star Law. **3.00** Lost Mines: Restored. **4.00** Alaska: The Last Frontier. **5.00** Wheeler Dealers. **6.00** Bitchin' Rides. **7.00** Junkyard Empire. **8.00** Railroad Alaska. **9.00** Wheeler Dealers. **10.00** Chasing Classic Cars. **11.00** Yukon Men.

DRAMA (DAYTIME)

Freeview 20 Sky 143 Virgin 130

10.00am Casualty. **12noon** The Bill. **1.00** Classic EastEnders. **2.15** Monarch of the Glen. **4.20** All Creatures Great and Small. **5.20** Waiting for God. **6.00** Are You Being Served? **6.40** 'Allo 'Allo!

E4 (DAYTIME)

Freeview 13 Sky 135 Virgin 106

11.00am Young Sheldon. **12noon** Brooklyn Nine-Nine. **1.00** The Big Bang Theory. **3.00** Young Sheldon. **4.00** Teen First Dates. **5.00** The Big Bang Theory.

EDEN

Sky 166 Virgin 245

12noon China's 10 Deadliest Snakes with Nigel Marven. **1.00** A Tale of Two Sisters. **2.00** Inside the Vets.

3.00 Snow Leopards and Friends. **4.00** Africa From Above. **5.00** Costa Rica: The Rise of Nature. **6.00** Collar of Duty. **7.00** A Tale of Two Sisters. **8.00** Inside the Vets. **9.00** Africa From Above. **10.00** Collar of Duty. **11.00** Costa Rica: The Rise of Nature.

EUROSPORT 1

Sky 410 Virgin 521

9.00am Cycling: CRO Race. **10.00** Triathlon — Embrunman Ironman. **11.00** Athletics: London Marathon. **12.30pm** Cycling: CRO Race. **1.00** Live Cycling: Coppa Bernocchi. **2.30** Live Cycling: Tour of Munsterland. **4.30** Cycling: Tour of Taiwan. **5.00** Cycling: Ras na mBan. **5.30** Masters Snooker. **6.00** Climbing Show. **7.25** Eurosport News. **8.00** Cycling: CRO Race. **9.00** Cycling: Coppa Bernocchi. **10.00** Cycling: Tour of Munsterland. **11.00** Triathlon: Super League.

FILM4

Freeview 14 Sky 313 Virgin 428

11.00am THE GREAT SIOUX MASSACRE. (1965) (U) **1.05pm** HIGH NOON. (1952) (U) **2.50** RUN SILENT, RUN DEEP. (1958) (U) **4.45** MAN OF THE WEST. (1958) (12) **6.50** MY COUSIN RACHEL. (2017) (12) **9.00** COMING TO AMERICA. (1988) (15) **11.20** WHAT MEN WANT. (2019) (15) **1.40am** ANIMALS. (2019) (15)

5STAR (DAYTIME)

Freeview 32 Sky 128 Virgin 151

12noon Shoplifters & Scammers: At War with the Law. **1.00** Traffic Cops: On the Edge. **2.00** Police Interceptors. **5.00** Filthy House SOS. **6.00** Home and Away.

5 USA (DAYTIME)

Freeview 21 Sky 141 Virgin 153

12noon Law & Order. **6.00** NCIS.

FOOD NETWORK UK

Freeview 43 Sky 140 Virgin 285

6.00pm The Great British Bake Off. **8.00** Jamie's Meat-Free Meals. **8.30** Nadiya's Family Favourites. **9.00** Sophie Grigson: Slice of Italy. **10.00** Rachel Khoo's Chocolate. **11.00** Restaurant: Impossible.

GOLD

Sky 110 Virgin 124

11.55am Desmond's. **12.30pm** Chef! **1.10** Dad's Army. **1.50** Still Open All Hours. **2.30** Open All Hours. **3.10** Last of the Summer Wine. **4.25** Dad's Army. **5.05** Keeping Up Appearances. **5.45** Open All Hours. **6.25** Only Fools and Horses. **7.05** Dad's Army. **8.25** The Vicar of Dibley. **9.20** Mrs Brown's Boys. **10.00** The Real McCoy. **10.35** I'm Alan Partridge. **11.20** Mrs Brown's Boys.

Time	BBC 4	E4	ITV2
	9 (Scot 24)	13	6
7.00pm	BBC Young Musician 2022: Woodwind Final Highlights Five outstanding young woodwind players compete for a place in the grand final	Hollyoaks Sienna recruits Ethan to help her take down Norma once and for all	Secret Crush Jules hopes it is second time lucky at the bar, Chloe hopes to go from rave buddy to romance with Charlie, and Blake meets his crush for the first time in real life
7.30pm		The Farmer Wants a Wife: Australia New series. Five farmers set out on a quest for true love, with eight women having been invited to come to meet them before they embark on a series of dates	Bob's Burgers Tina gets her heart broken, so Linda and Louise try to cheer her up
8.00pm	Forest, Field & Sky: Art Out of Nature Artists whose work explores the human relationship with the natural world		Bob's Burgers Linda fills in at the library
8.30pm			
9.00pm	Glenda Jackson: This Cultural Life New series. Glenda Jackson talks to John Wilson	Married at First Sight UK The anonymous letters assignment brings uncomfortable observations	Bad Chefs The contestants cook in pairs, with vegan chef Rachel Ama guiding them through, with another one leaving the competition after the elimination
9.30pm	Elizabeth Is Missing (2019,12) An 80-year-old woman who has dementia tries to solve the mystery of her friend's disappearance before her fading memory erases the clues. Drama, with Glenda Jackson		Family Guy A parody of film noir detective films
10.00pm		The Big Blow Out New series. AJ Odudu hosts the contest in which experienced hairstylists compete in a series of challenges	American Dad! Hayley and Jeff help run a solar company
10.30pm			10.55 Family Guy
11.00pm	Horror of Darkness Peter and Cathy are initially delighted to see their charismatic friend Robin. But he quickly outstays his welcome (To 12.10)	11.05 Gogglebox More insightful and passionate critiques of <i>World on Fire</i> , <i>Antiques Roadshow</i> and <i>Britain's Got Talent: The Champions</i> . (To 12.10)	11.25 Family Guy Peter and the guys try to make a viral video
11.30pm			11.55 American Dad! The Smiths discover a salt deposit (To 12.20)

GREAT! MOVIES

Freeview 34 Sky 321 Virgin 425

12.50pm GREAT! MOVIE NEWS EXTRA. **1.00** CRADLE SWAPPING. (2017) (PG) **2.50** GREAT! MOVIE NEWS EXTRA. **3.00** RUNNING AWAY. (2017) (PG) **4.45** ENIGMA. (1982) (15) **6.45** S.W.A.T. (2003) (12) **9.00** IMMORTALS. (2011) (15) **11.15** PERSONAL SHOPPER. (2016) (15)

GREAT! MOVIES ACTION

Freeview 42 Sky 323 Virgin 426

12noon M*A*S*H. **1.00** THE STRANGER WORE A GUN. (1953) (U) **1.55** THIS WEEK BACK THEN. **2.01** THE STRANGER WORE A GUN. (1953) (U) **2.50** SEVEN DOLLARS ON THE RED. (1966) (PG) **3.45** THIS WEEK BACK THEN. **3.51** SEVEN DOLLARS ON THE RED. (1966) (PG) **4.55** THE MOUNTAIN ROAD. (1960) (U) **5.50** THIS WEEK BACK THEN. **5.56** THE MOUNTAIN ROAD. (1960) (U) **7.05** METEOR APOCALYPSE. (2010) (15) **8.00** THIS WEEK BACK THEN. **8.06** METEOR APOCALYPSE. (2010) (15) **9.55** THIS WEEK BACK THEN. **10.01** BRAVEN. (2018) (15) **10.50** THE WINTER SOLDIER. (2016) (15) **11.45** THIS WEEK BACK THEN. **11.51** THE WINTER SOLDIER. (2016) (15)

RADIO 4

FM: 92.4-94.6MHZ; LW: 198KHZ

5.30 News Briefing. **5.43** Prayer for the Day. **5.45** Farming Today. **5.58** Tweet of the Day. **6.00** Today. **9.00** Start the Week. Kirsty Wark and guests discuss political leadership and parliamentary oversight. **9.45** (LW) Daily Service. **9.45** (FM) PICK How to Steal a Trillion. **10.00** Woman's Hour. **11.00** Room 5. **11.30** The Bottom Line. **12.00** News; (LW) Shipping Forecast. **12.04** You and Yours. **12.57** Weather. **1.00** The World at One. **1.45** The Boy in the Woods. New series. Winifred Robinson explores the 1994 murder of six-year-old Rikki Neave. **2.00** The Archers.

GREAT! CHRISTMAS

Freeview 52 Sky 319 Virgin 424

10.00am Finding Father Christmas. (2016) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **12noon** A Family for the Holidays. (2018) (U) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **2.00** A Christmas Kiss. (2011) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **4.00** Another Christmas Kiss. (2014) (PG) **6.00** Christmas Festival of Ice. (2017) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News. **8.00** A Rose for Christmas. (2017) (PG) Drama, starring Rachel Boston. Includes GREAT! Movie News. **10.00** The Christmas Clause. (2008) (PG) Includes GREAT! Movie News.

GREAT! TV

Freeview 50 Sky 157 Virgin 189

1.00pm Body of Proof. **2.00** FILM: Mary Higgins Clark: A Cry in the Night. (1992) (PG) **4.00** Sue Thomas: F.B.Eye. **5.00** Murder, She Wrote. **7.00** M*A*S*H. **9.00** Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased). Marty recalls an old case. **10.00** The Persuaders! Danny and Brett help a grand duchess. **11.00** Classic Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?

ITV2 (DAYTIME)

Freeview 6 Sky 118 Virgin 115

9.00am Veronica Mars. **10.00** One Tree Hill. **11.00** Hart of Dixie. **12noon** Supermarket Sweep. **1.00** Family Fortunes. **2.00** The Masked Singer U.S. **3.05** Veronica Mars. **4.00** One Tree Hill. **5.00** Hart of Dixie. **6.00** Catchphrase Celebrity Special.

ITV3 (DAYTIME)

Freeview 10 Sky 119 Virgin 117

11.30am Heartbeat. **1.40pm** Classic Emmerdale. **2.40** Classic Coronation Street. **3.45** Agatha Christie's Poirot: The Hollow. **6.00** Heartbeat.

ITV4 (DAYTIME)

Freeview 26 Sky 120 Virgin 118

10.15am Minder. **11.25** The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes. **12.30pm** The Saint. **1.35** Match Time Revisited. **2.35** Magnum, P.I. **3.45** The Sweeney. **4.50** Minder. **6.00** Match Time Revisited.

ITVBE

Freeview 28 Sky 131 Virgin 119

9.00am LittleBe. **12noon** Best Cake Wins. **12.30** The Real Housewives of

PICK OF TODAY'S RADIO

HOW TO STEAL A TRILLION, 9.45AM, 12.30AM, RADIO 4

OLIVER BULLOUGH has been running Kleptocracy tours of London, pointing out some of the fancy houses owned by overseas crooks. The tours proved popular with the punters, but not with the various mansion-owning oligarchs, sheikhs and dodgy dealers. In this first of a five-part series,

which hears from historians, whistleblowers, former investigators and politicians, Oliver takes us back to the 1950s, when some bankers realised that offshore activities could bring a tide of gold to Old London Town, and the City could become a money-laundering machine.

2.15 This Cultural Life. **3.00** Brain of Britain. **3.30** The Food Programme. The cost of living crisis. **4.00** Peter Greenaway: Painting with Film. **4.30** Beyond Belief. In his final programme as presenter, Ernie Rea reflects on the evolving role of faith. **5.00** PM; (LW) Shipping Forecast. **5.57** Weather. **6.00** Six O'Clock News. **6.30** PICK It's a Fair Cop. **7.00** The Archers. Jill celebrates her 92nd birthday. **7.15** Front Row. Arts news. **8.00** Back Seat Drivers. Steven Fielding asks politicians, journalists, advisers and historians what ex-PMs should do.

ITV 3	ITV 4	MORE 4	PICK	QUEST	DAVE	DRAMA	5STAR	5 USA
10 Heartbeat A burglary investigation takes an unexpected turn when the victim is found to be leading a double life, while Blaketon falls for the charms of a solicitor	26 Gallagher Premiership Rugby Union Highlights Action from the latest fixtures, including Sale Sharks v Exeter Chiefs and Saracens v Leicester Tigers	18 6.55 Escape to the Chateau Dick and Angel start work on replacing the roof	36 Hawaii Five-0 Danny protects a coma patient showing signs of waking who was the key witness from his last Hawaii PD case before he met Steve and joined Five-0	12 Outback Opal Hunters The Tarantos' overworked excavator grinds to a halt, and the Cheals are hit with more breakdowns	19 Richard Osman's House of Games With Ade Adepitan and Jean Johansson	20 7.20 Last of the Summer Wine Nora Batty chases after Compo for once — but only because she is hurtling toward him in a sidecar during a trip to the countryside	32 GPs: Behind Closed Doors Dr Razak's first patient Michael has a nasty bruise on his arm after falling in his driveway	21 NCIS Gibbs finds himself staring down the barrel of a gun while he is at his favourite diner, forcing him to question choices he has made in the past and present
Agatha Christie's Marple The Pale Horse: The sleuth investigates the murder of her old friend Father Gorman, using a list of names sent by the priest moments before his death to bring the guilty party to justice. Drama, starring Julia McKenzie in the title role, with Lynda Baron, Pauline Collins, Nicholas Parsons and Neil Pearson	MotoGP Highlights Action from the Thailand Grand Prix as the riders battle for points at the Chang International Circuit	7.55 Great Canal Journeys Timothy West and Prunella Scales explore a picturesque stretch of the Canal du Midi in the south of France, visit the town of Beziers and taste lamb's brain fritters	Magnum P.I. Magnum and Higgins work a stalking case involving a man with a history of espionage. Meanwhile, Ethan has a proposition. Last in series	Salvage Hunters Drew Pritchard seeks out the very best antiques the Isle of Wight has to offer. His first stop is the seaside town of Ventnor	8.20 Would I Lie to You? With Micky Flanagan, Fiona Bruce, Claudia Winkleman and Steve Jones	The Brokenwood Mysteries Following Brokenwood's first drum 'n' bass festival, the van belonging to the band Starscraper suddenly explodes seemingly from the volume of the music it was playing. Detective drama, with Neill Rea and Fern Sutherland	Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun Ben introduces viewers to the world of Benidorm's tribute act circuit in his roles as a Gary Barlow impersonator	NCIS Tony is reunited with his journalist ex-fiancee Wendy Miller while investigating the murder of a Navy captain leading a double life
Van Der Valk The Dutch detective is called in to investigate the gruesome murder of Susie de Windt, a solicitor whose mutilated body was discovered strung up on a windfarm with an 'X' carved into her stomach and a cryptic note inside her coat. Crime drama, starring Marc Warren (To 12.00)	The Grand Fishing Adventure Ali Hamidi and Bobby Zamora's bucket list fishing tour of Britain begins in Shropshire	Devon and Cornwall A steam engine enthusiast embarks on a coast-to-coast journey across Devon, travelling across the county in an 80-year-old steamroller	The Real Manhunter: The Disappearance of Maureen Hale A walk through the case of Maureen Hale, who vanished one evening in 1999	Aussie Gold Hunters Jacqui and Andrew feel the pressure as they battle hard rock ground that could ruin their latest deal	QI XL Sandi Toksvig is joined by Alan Davies, Bridget Christie, Johnny Vegas and Holly Walsh as she asks a selection of questions on the subject of rubbish	New Tricks A bloodstained bust is uncovered during construction work in a cemetery. Detective drama, starring Nicholas Lyndhurst	Dirty Home Rescue Hayley Leitch and her cleaning team go to the rescue of Anita, whose house is overrun with three cats who make a mess wherever they like	The Blacklist After a heist takes place at a bank, Red sees the opportunity to blow the whistle on the institution's money-laundering activities
	Aliens (1986,18) Lone survivor Ripley joins a military expedition that encounters hordes of the creatures that wiped out her crew. James Cameron's sci-fi thriller sequel, with Sigourney Weaver, Michael Biehn and Lance Henriksen. Includes FYI Daily (To 12.50)	Britain's Most Expensive Houses Documentary going behind the scenes with UK Sotheby's International Realty	The Twilight Zone Reboot of the Rod Serling fantasy anthology series	Outback Truckers Car wreckers Mike and Michael push their trucks to their limits. Sludge feels the heat in bush fire country	Question Team Making up Richard Ayode's self-quizzing collective this time are Joel Dommett, Harriet Kemsley and Janine Harouni	11.20 Spooks When Harry's plan to ground all planes leaks, Adam and Ros go undercover to prevent a nuclear warhead circuit board reaching Iran (To 12.40)	Adults Only: Threesomes Are More Fun A revealing insight into couples who seek another person to join them in a sexual relationship	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit A woman disappears
		11.05 24 Hours in A&E Cameras follow a ten-year-old who has severed his finger at school and a stonemason who has dropped a marble slab on his hand (To 12.10)	10.45 The Twilight Zone A church handyman uncovers a magical scale model. Damon Wayans Jr and David Krumholtz star	How Do They Do It? The production of tyres made by the Titan Corporation	Mel Giedroyc: Unforgivable Joel Dommett lifts the lid on a shocking act and Thanyia Moore gets revenge (To 12.00)		Dracula Untold (2014,15) A Romanian knight makes a dangerous supernatural bargain. Fantasy, starring Luke Evans (To 1.00)	10.55 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit Benson and Stabler are called on to investigate when a man discovers a dead woman in his bed
			Britain's Most Evil Killers The case of nurse Beverley Allitt (To 12.30)	How Do They Do It? Paris sewers, Berettas and cotton manufacture (To 12.00)				11.50 Law & Order: Criminal Intent A woman is murdered (To 12.50)

Beverly Hills. **1.20** Ferne McCann: First Time Mum. **2.20** The Only Way Is Essex. **3.10** Million Dollar Listing: NYC. **4.05** The Real Housewives of Orange County. **5.00** The Real Housewives of Potomac. **6.00** Masters of Flip. **7.00** Buying and Selling. **8.00** Dinner Date. **9.00** The Real Housewives of Cheshire. **10.00** Botched. **11.00** Million Dollar Matchmaker. **12midnight** The Only Way Is Essex.

MORE 4 (DAYTIME)

Freeview 18 Sky 136 Virgin 147
11.05am Find It, Fix It, Flog It. **1.10pm** Heir Hunters. **2.10** Four in a Bed. **4.50** Find It, Fix It, Flog It. **5.55** Car S.O.S. **6.55** Escape to the Chateau.

NAT'L GEOGRAPHIC

Sky 129 Virgin 266
12noon Lost Treasures of Egypt. **1.00** World War I Apocalypse. **2.00** Drain the Oceans. **3.00** Air Crash Investigation. **4.00** Ice Road Rescue. **5.00** Car S.O.S. **6.00** Lost Treasures of Egypt. **7.00** Air Crash Investigation. **8.00** World War II: Secrets From Above. **9.00** History: The Interesting Bits.



■ **ALFIE MOORE** (pictured), a former police officer turned comedian, returns with a new series of **IT'S A FAIR COP (6.30PM, RADIO 4)**, which starts with Alfie swearing in the audience as deputies. He then takes them through a real-life case, in which mobile phones have been disappearing from a warehouse on a regular basis. As the case unfolds, a suspect emerges, so Alfie asks his new deputies what they would do next.

8.30 Analysis. New series. Prof. James Tilley asks what protest marches can achieve and why people take part.
9.00 Wild Inside. Professor Ben Garrod and veterinary surgeon Jess French examine the cheetah.
9.30 Start the Week.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Stories from Ukraine.
11.00 Techno: A Social History. Presented by DJ Ash Lauryn.
11.30 Music Made in the Middle. Music made in the West Midlands.
12.00 News and Weather.
12.30 PICK: How to Steal a Trillion.
12.48 Shipping Forecast.
1.00 As World Service.

REALLY

Freeview 17 Sky 142 Virgin 128
12noon Money for Nothing. **1.00** The Hotel Inspector. **2.00** Animal Cops Philadelphia. **4.00** Dr Jeff. Rocky Mountain Vet. **5.00** Aussie Kids A&E. **6.00** Money for Nothing. **7.00** Antiques Road Trip. **9.00** The Saved and Remade Workshop. **10.00** The Repair Shop. **11.00** Ghost Adventures.

SKY ARTS

Freeview 11 Sky 130 Virgin 165
12noon Mystery of the Lost Paintings. **1.00** Tales of the Unexpected. **2.00** Manet from the Royal Academy of Arts, London. **3.00** Portrait Artist of the Year 2017. **4.00** Discovering: Orson Welles. **5.00** Tales of the Unexpected. **6.00** Alfred Hitchcock Presents. **7.00** Andre Rieu in Wonderland. **9.30** Mystery of the Lost Paintings. **10.30** Ray Charles: Music Icons. **11.00** The Other Art Show. **11.30** Brian Johnson's A Life on the Road.

SKY ATLANTIC

Sky 108
10.00am The Sopranos. **12.15pm** Ray Donovan. **2.25** Game of Thrones.

RADIO 2 FM: 88-90.2MHz

6.30 Zoe Ball. **9.30** Ken Bruce. **12.00** Jeremy Vine. **2.00** OJ Borg. **5.00** Sara Cox. **6.30** Sara Cox's Half Wower. **7.00** Shiny Happy Playlist. **7.30** Jo Whiley. **9.00** The Blues Show with Cerys Matthews. **10.00** DJ Spooky's Magnificent 7. **10.30** DJ Spooky's Rhythm Nation. **12.00** Phil Williams.

RADIO 3 FM: 90.2-92.4MHz

6.30 Breakfast. **9.00** Essential Classics. **12.00** Composer of the Week. **1.00** Lunchtime Concert. **2.00** Afternoon Concert. **4.30** New Generation Artists. **5.00** In Tune. **7.00** In Tune Mixtape. **7.30** Radio 3 in Concert. Mendelssohn's Scottish Symphony, from Dresden. **9.30** Northern Drift. **10.00** Music Matters. **10.45** The Essay. Blade Runner at 40. **11.00** Night Tracks. **12.30** Through the Night.

RADIO 5 LIVE MW: 693/909KHz

5.00 Wake Up to Money. **6.00** Breakfast. **9.00** Nicky Campbell. **11.00** Naga Munchetty. **1.00** Nihal Arthanayake. **4.00** 5 Live Drive. **7.00** 5 Live Sport: Monday Night Club. **9.00** 5 Live Cricket. **10.00** Colin Murray. **1.00** Dotun Adebayo.

3.30 The Wire. **5.45** The Sopranos. **7.55** Game of Thrones. **9.00** House of the Dragon. **10.10** Gangs of London. **11.15** House of the Dragon.

SKY COMEDY

Sky 114 Virgin 135
11.30am Curb Your Enthusiasm. **12.10pm** Veep. **1.20** Ballers. **2.30** The Office (US). **3.00** Will & Grace. **5.00** The Office (US). **5.30** Futurama. **6.30** Everybody Hates Chris. **7.30** The Office (US). **9.00** Last Week Tonight with John Oliver. **9.40** Black Monday. **11.00** Last Week Tonight with John Oliver. **11.40** Real Time with Bill Maher.

SKY DOCUMENTARIES

Sky 121 Virgin 278
12noon Arthur Miller: Writer. **2.00** FILM: Baby God. (2020) **3.30** Premier League Legends. **4.00** The Directors. **5.00** Discovering: Bill Murray. **6.00** Ghislaine Maxwell: Epstein's Shadow. **7.00** The Vow. **8.00** 100 Foot Wave. **9.00** FILM: I Am Jackie O. (2020) (12) **10.45** Janet Jackson. **11.45** FILM: Wig. (2019) (15)

SKY DRAMA

Sky 310 Virgin 410
12noon FRANKIE AND JOHNNY. (1991) (15) **2.00** LET HIM GO. (2020) (15) **4.00** SELMA. (2014) (12) **6.15** JUNGLELAND. (2019) (15) **8.00** 54. (1998) (15) **9.40** ANOTHER ROUND. (2020) (12) **11.40** SEVEN POUNDS. (2008) (12)

SKY HISTORY

Sky 123 Virgin 270
12noon American Pickers. **1.00** The UnXplained with William Shatner. **2.00** Counting Cars. **3.00** Pawn Stars. **4.00** Swamp People. **5.00** Secrets in the Ice. **6.00** American Pickers. **7.00** Forged in Fire. **8.00** American Pickers. **9.00** Britain's Greatest Obsessions. **10.00** Cracking the Code. **11.00** Britain's Most Historic Towns.

SKY MAX

Sky 113 Virgin 121
11.00am NCIS: New Orleans. **1.00pm** Hawaii Five-0. **2.00** MacGyver. **3.00** DC's Legends of Tomorrow. **4.00** The Flash. **5.00** Supergirl. **6.00** Stargate SG-1. **8.00** Resident Alien. **9.00** COBRA: Cyberwar. **10.00** Brassic. **11.00** A League of Their Own.

SKY PREMIERE

Sky 301 Virgin 401
10.40am AFTER YANG. (2022) (PG) **12.30pm** SHARK BAIT. (2022) (15) **2.10** MARRY ME. (2022) (12) **4.10** CLEAN. (2021) (15) **6.00** UNCHARTED. (2022) (12) **8.00** GEORGETOWN. (2019) (15) **9.55** THE 355. (2022) (12)

SKY SCI-FI

Sky 139 Virgin 139
9.00am Teleshopping. **11.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. **12noon** Star Trek: Enterprise. **2.00** Futurama. **3.00** Fringe. **4.00** Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. **5.00** Stargate SG-1. **6.00** Star Trek: Enterprise. **8.00** Manifest. **10.00** Train.

SKY WITNESS

Sky 107 Virgin 112
12noon The Rookie. **1.00** FBI. **2.00** Blue Bloods. **3.00** The Equalizer. **4.00** Paramedics Australia. **5.00** Nothing to Declare. **8.00** Blue Bloods. **10.00** Law & Order: Special Victims Unit.

SKY MAIN EVENT

Sky 401 Virgin 511
12noon The Football Show. **1.00** Sky Sports News. **7.00** Live MNF. Leicester City v Nottingham Forest (Kick-off 8pm). **11.00** Live World Grand Prix Darts. Day one at Morningside Arena in Leicester. **12midnight** Sky Sports News. **1.00** Liver NFL. San Francisco 49ers v Los Angeles Rams.

SKY PREMIER LEAGUE

Sky 402 Virgin 512
11.30am Ref Watch. **12noon** The Football Show. **1.00** Premier League Years. **3.00** Premier League Highlights. **4.00** Premier League Best Goals. **5.00** Premier League Highlights. **6.00** Premier League Legends. **6.30** Soccer AM: The Best Bits. **7.00** Live MNF. Leicester City v Nottingham Forest (Kick-off 8pm). **11.00** Soccer AM: The Best Bits. **11.30** Premier League Icons.

SKY FOOTBALL

Sky 403 Virgin 513
10.00am EFL Cup Retro. **12noon** EFL. **3.00** EFL Goals: Leagues 1 & 2. **3.30** EFL Highlights. **5.00** Scottish Premiership Round-Up. **5.15** SPFL Highlights. **5.30** EFL Goals: Leagues 1 & 2. **6.00** Soccer AM: The Best Bits. **6.30** Scottish Premiership Round-Up. **6.45** SPFL Highlights. **7.00** Bundesliga Highlights Show. **8.00** EFL Highlights. **9.00** EFL Goals: Leagues 1 & 2. **9.30** Soccer AM: The Best Bits. **10.00** Scottish Premiership Round-Up. **10.15** SPFL Highlights. **10.30** MLS Round-Up Show. **11.00** Bundesliga Highlights Show.

SKY CRICKET

Sky 404 Virgin 514
9.00am International T20 Cricket. **1.30pm** History of the ICC World T20. **4.00** Best of ICC WT20. **5.00** Graeme Swann Spin Bowling Clinic. **5.30** Voices of Summer. **6.00** International T20 Cricket. **10.30** Talking Cricket. **11.00** Best of ICC WT20.

SKY MIX

Sky 416 Virgin 520
7.30am International T20 Cricket. **12noon** NFL Highlights. **2.00** Sail GP. **3.30** My Icon: Henni Goya. **3.45** My Icon: Solomon Wilcotts. **4.00** NFL Highlights. **5.00** PGA Tour Golf. **8.00** NRL. **9.00** NRLW. **10.00** DP World Tour Golf. **11.00** PGA Tour Golf.

SMITHSONIAN

Freeview 57 Sky 171 Virgin 276
11.00am Robert Powell on the Real Jesus of Nazareth. **3.00pm** Tomb Hunters. **7.00** Inside the Factory. **8.00** Ice Airport Alaska. **10.00** Inside the Factory: How Our Favourite Foods Are Made. **11.00** Ice Airport Alaska.

TALKING PICTURES TV

Freeview 82 Sky 328 Virgin 445
10.25am FILM: Impulse. (1954) (15) **12.05pm** Look at Life. **12.20** FILM: A Touch Of The Sun. (1956) (U) **2.00** Rooms. **3.00** FILM: Next To No Time. (1958) (PG) **5.00** The Footage Detectives. **6.00** FILM: Mr Denning Drives North. (1951) (12) **7.50** Look at Life. **8.00** The Main Chance. **9.00** FILM: Afraid of the Dark. (1991) (15) **10.45** Screenagers! **11.00** Secret Army.

TCM

Sky 315 Virgin 415
8.10am CHEYENNE. **9.20** MURDER AHOY. (1964) (U) **11.15** CHEYENNE. **1.30pm** THE SEARCHERS. (1956) (U) **4.00** HIRED GUN. (1957) (U) **5.20** THE GUN HAWK. (1963) (U) **7.15** GUN GLORY. (1957) (U) **9.00** SWORDFISH. (2001) (15) **11.05** PRESUMED INNOCENT. (1990) (18) **1.40am** LETHAL WEAPON 3. (1992) (15)

W

Sky 132 Virgin 125
12noon Inside the Ambulance. **2.00** Tipping Point. **4.00** DIY SOS: Children in Need Special. **5.00** Property Brothers: Forever Homes. **6.00** Doctor Who. **7.00** MasterChef Australia. **8.00** Emma Willis: Delivering Babies. **9.00** DIY SOS: The Big Build. **10.20** The Undateables. **11.20** Dating With My Mates.

YESTERDAY

Freeview 27 Sky 155 Virgin 129
12noon Secrets of the London Underground. **1.00** Bangers and Cash. **2.00** Steam Train Britain. **3.00** Abandoned Engineering. **4.00** War Factories. **5.00** The World at War. **6.00** Top Gear. **7.00** Fred Dibnah's Made in Britain. **8.00** Abandoned Engineering. **9.00** The Buildings That Fought Hitler. **10.00** Bangers and Cash. **11.00** Abandoned Engineering.

ARIES Mar 21 - Apr 20 IT'S hard to imagine what life was like before the wheel. Like most great advancements, it's a gloriously simple and neat idea. There comes a moment in every creative process when, after sifting through a list of theories, a lightning bolt of clarity reveals that we only need to do 'this or that'. It's usually so obvious that, once we've seen it, we can't understand why the issue seemed so complicated. You're looking for a solution today. With Mercury now direct, the penny is about to drop. Your in-depth, latest October forecast could be one of the most rewarding calls you ever make. Call 0906 751 5601.

TAURUS Apr 21 - May 21 WE HUMANS are a judgmental lot. We jump to conclusions quickly. And, of course, the criticism starts with ourselves. We're quick to find fault with our own behaviour; question our abilities and doubt our judgments — and we take those traits out into the world and use them on others and on the cosmos. We suspect it doesn't approve of us and that we're not 'good enough' to warrant its protection. But nothing could be further from the truth. If you look carefully today, you'll see just how hard it's working for you. For a treasure trove of inspiration about October, call your month-ahead forecast. It's inspiring. Call 0906 751 5602.

GEMINI May 22 - June 22 WE DON'T have to run marathons or swim in freezing temperatures to do something impressive. Sometimes, we achieve the most when we do the least. It's not the actions we take that make a difference — it's the ones we refrain from taking. With your ruler, Mercury, now direct, there's a lot you could say today. There's a battle you could fight or an argument you could pursue. If, though, you stand back from all that seems to be drawing you into a vortex of emotions, you'll be able to enjoy real success. Powerful celestial events make October a month to remember. Make sure you take full advantage. Call 0906 751 5603.

CANCER June 23 - July 23 ARE you being too careful, too smart or too sensitive? No. You're being astute and perceptive. You've recognised issues and implications other folk have been unable (or unwilling) to acknowledge. Just because they might not understand why your priorities have changed doesn't mean you

OSCAR CAINER



IT'S relatively quiet in the heavens this week... and, with Mercury no longer retrograde, there's an irony about being able to communicate more easily, only to realise that I don't have much to say! Of course,

that's not strictly true — Mercury's new direction gives us the motivation to apply lessons learned over the past few weeks. If we make good use of insights gained, we can redress injustices and rebalance the scales.

should start questioning your judgment. You're dealing with a delicate situation and can't risk cutting a corner that might later turn out to be important. Trust your intuition. Stay true to yourself. Your approach will save the day. *October is going to be amazing. For four-minutes of news and insight that could change your life, call 0906 751 5604.*

LEO July 24 - Aug 23 JUST because something seems to have gone wrong doesn't mean you're dealing with an impossible situation. The real problem is that you sense something looming on the horizon over which you have no control. It feels like, as long as it doesn't happen, everything will be fine. But all will be well even if it does! Because you're worrying, whatever's 'looming' is hard to ignore. But, if you pay attention to the lessons you're learning, you'll be able to easily deal with anything tricky that comes your way. *To hear uplifting news about the possibilities October brings, call your month-ahead forecast: 0906 751 5605.*

VIRGO Aug 24 - Sep 23 THERE'S almost as much written about writer's block as there are novels, poetry and prose. In my profession, a short stint of it would feel a bit like a holiday... but it's an indulgence I don't have time for! To keep the words flowing, I try to stay focused on ideas. Less on the specifics and more on the overall message; what do I want to say and why do I want to say it? Try asking yourself the same questions today. With Mercury, your ruler, now moving forwards, the mental block you've been struggling with will begin to lift. *There's so much to tell you about October and you're going to love it. For news you need to hear, call 0906 751 5606.*

LIBRA Sep 24 - Oct 23 YOUR sense of material and emotional security must improve. That's not 'must' as in 'needs to'. It's 'must' as in 'simply can't do anything else'. That's reassuring — as is the fact that your sense of wellbeing must also increase. Here, though, that's 'must' as in 'needs to'. With Venus, your ruler, in your sign, despite the difficulties you face, things will get better. It's just that in order to appreciate the cosmic support that's on offer, you need to open your eyes to improvements and trust. *October brings the cosmic potential to make your dreams come true. Call your four-minute forecast: 0906 751 5607.*

SCORPIO Oct 24 - Nov 22 IF YOU'VE experienced a hangover you'll know of the ramifications. The headaches, the anxious recollections and the vows 'never to do it again'. Until the next time! Alcohol-related (or not), there's a dash of perversity in us all. We sometimes make promises we can't keep. Someone has made you an important promise. I'm not suggesting they won't keep it. But there's a difference between what's said and what's done. If you manage your expectations, you'll find a sure-fire way to make the changes you wish to see. *If you don't usually call your forecast, this is the month to do it. Your October prediction has brilliant news. Call 0906 751 5608.*

SAGITTARIUS Nov 23 - Dec 21 THEY say 'time is a great healer' and it can bring about the most incredible transformations. Sometimes, though, you have a rather tricky relationship with time, not least because you tend to speed through life at a frenetic pace. Multi-tasking, which is one of

your assets, doesn't come easily to everyone. Neither does the ability to juggle lots of ideas at the same time. You're hoping that a dream will come true. It will, but you need to think in terms of weeks (not days). *Welcome to an exciting month. October's cosmic events could transform your life. Find out how. Call 0906 751 5609.*

CAPRICORN Dec 22 - Jan 20 WHAT if I told you that I hadn't created a horoscope for you? That you haven't done enough to deserve one? Instead, there's a little lecture about how to improve your behaviour, plus a list of activities you need to refrain from? Consider your knuckles rapped! Feeling better? I suspect not. It's certainly not my place to drag you over the coals. But it isn't anyone else's either. The cosmos is urging you to ignore any negativity today. Don't allow anyone to judge you (and that includes yourself). *October is chock-a-block with celestial action. Your month holds great potential for positive change. Call 0906 751 5610.*

AQUARIUS Jan 21 - Feb 19 SHALL we try an experiment today? I'm going to think about an apple and your job is to try to guess what I'm thinking about. Ready? Brilliant. You got it right! You don't think of yourself as being able to read people's minds, yet you don't need to have telepathic skills to know what's on the mind of a key person in your world right now. They're sending out very clear signals — all you need to do is pay them enough attention. If you understand them, they'll return the favour. *It's October! For uplifting news on how the thrilling astrological action brings exciting opportunities, call 0906 751 5611.*

PISCES Feb 20 - Mar 20 CHOOSE a number. Divide it by two, add the number you were originally thinking of and then multiply it by 251. And, just be aware that the second you make a mistake, this entire exercise will be invalidated. Well, not quite. You're surrounded by people who seem to be convinced that one very specific formula is the only way to resolve a current predicament. Unsurprisingly, your instinctive mistrust of such fixed dictates has been well and truly awoken. And rightly so. Don't be afraid to do things your way today. *Welcome to October! Your prediction for this action-packed month is ready. For inspiration call 0906 751 5612.*

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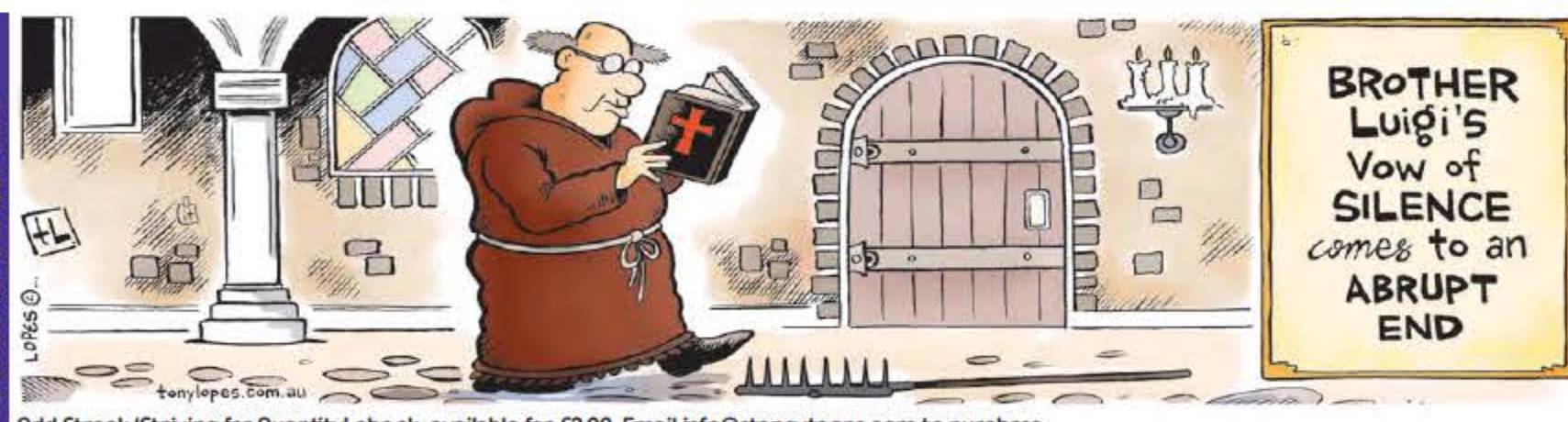
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LETTERS

Write to: Daily Mail Letters, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT
email: letters@dailymail.co.uk

History tells us to give Liz and Kwasi a chance

MANY letters from Conservative voters about tax reductions for 'the rich' show a lack of understanding of how a successful economy works.

In 1964, when Labour came to power under Harold Wilson, Denis Healey, the Chancellor, vowed to squeeze property speculators — meaning the rich — 'until the pips squeak'. His high-tax regime led to a mass exodus of our most talented individuals, mostly to the U.S., from where few returned.

This 'brain drain' was a self-inflicted wound to Britain's economy. Coupled with the failure of successive governments to rein in militant trade unions, it led to 15 years of decline and made Britain 'the sick man of Europe'. It was only when the Conservative government of Margaret Thatcher came to power in 1979 that the economy grew again, leading to the prosperity we enjoy today.

Labour has always been the party of levelling down — no one must be allowed to do better than anyone else. The Conservatives are the party that seeks to level up, by providing a climate in which talented entrepreneurs can build successful businesses, boosting employment and the economy.

Every Labour government has brought Britain's economy to its knees. Please do not risk this happening again. Give Liz Truss and Kwasi Kwarteng the benefit of the doubt, until their policies have a chance to prove themselves.

MALCOLM HEYMER,
Dereham, Norfolk.

Speaking her mind

DOES Rupa Huq losing the whip for calling Kwasi Kwarteng 'superficially black' mean free speech is not welcome in Keir Starmer's Labour Party?

In the business world, employers

Straight to the POINT



■ **CRISPIN ODEY** may have made £220 million but he can't tie his shoelaces.

ALAN CHURCH,
Ely, Cambs.

■ **IF ARMED** men turned up at my door in Yorkshire, I'd have voted to join Russia too.

DENNIS FISHER, Leeds.

■ **THERESA MAY** said there was 'no magic money tree'. There seems to be a forest of them now.

LAWRIE WOODYER,
Batley, W. Yorks.

■ **THE IMF** and the BBC in full cry. Liz Truss must be getting something right.

MAURICE HAWKINS,
Ballycarry, Co Antrim.

■ **LET'S** just use Indian rupees instead of pounds.

SAMUEL FAROOQ, London SW17.

■ **PLEASE** come back, Boris.

TONY WHEATLEY,
Chichester, W. Sussex.

■ **WHAT** colour wallpaper does Keir Starmer want?

TONY CARRUTHERS,
Amble, Northumberland.

pay us to comply with rules and eject us if we don't do so. But party leaders don't pay MPs; society does. Political parties are not controlled environments. They are a reflection of society; unwieldy and free.

When we disagree with people, in my opinion we should take note, not trigger a series of controlling events. I think Huq's words were offensive and culturally inappropriate. But if she hadn't said what she did, would she still think it? Now her 'truth' is out, the electorate can make more informed decisions about voting for her, and the party leader can pass her over for promotion (or not) on the basis of that knowledge.

Removing the whip from Huq shows that in Starmer's Labour Party, free speech is unwelcome and if they win the next General Election, Labour will be in control. Imagine that.

HARRIET GOULD,
Gamlingay, Cambs.

Lucky Starmers

KEIR STARMER emphasises that he is working class because his family had their phone cut off in the 1970s. They had a phone?

ERIC CRAGGS,
Shildon, Co Durham.

Smart or dumb?

THE rollout of smart meters has cost £13 billion, yet already some are obsolete or don't work properly (Money Mail).

If you are cold, put the heating on. You don't need a smart meter to tell you that. Let's just look forward to spring, and lower bills.

LYNN WALKER, London SE12.

Regal example

THE 'Labour for a Republic' group is aggrieved that the accession of King Charles III means a 'white, privileged male' is head of state.

Has it occurred to them that, thanks to the reign of Queen Elizabeth II and her consort Prince Philip, we had a woman, married to an immigrant, as our head of state for 70 years?

Not only that, we had a female head of state at a time when the U.S., France, Germany, Italy, Portugal and most other liberal European republics had never elected a female president.

The monarchy has done more for minority representation than

Our equals but not our betters, so why do we still curtsy and bow?



Age of deference: A curtsy to the Queen Mother in the 1950s

I CANNOT understand why people think they should bow or curtsy to members of the Royal Family.

It is servile, demeaning and embarrassing. The new King would do well to make clear that he doesn't want, expect or require anyone to do this

ever again, in public or in private. In the meantime, people should just stop doing it. Eventually the penny would drop that although we may respect the Royals and the job they do, they are our equals, not our betters.

MARTIN CUTTS,
Whaley Bridge, Derbys.

most of the republics these failed revolutionaries want to ape.

ROBERT FRAZER,
Salford, Gtr Manchester.

Russians routed

DR YURI FELSHTINSKY (Letters), listing Russian mobilisations, omitted to mention the one in 1919-20 when the Red Army battled against Poland. The eventual result of the Russo-Polish war was a rout of the Russians; the Treaty of Riga in 1921 ceded territory to Poland. This is the example Ukraine should bear in mind as it fights for its territory.

Dr TAD PALUCHOWSKI,
West Chiltington, W. Sussex.

Who should pay?

THE cost of housing Channel migrants in hotels has risen to £1.3 billion a year, according to one analysis (Mail). Surely that sum should be met from our foreign aid budget.

Name and address supplied.

Give your blessing

BISHOPS are now days away from reporting recommendations to the General Synod on whether to allow same-sex couples to marry in the Church.

To withhold even a blessing in church is surely making the Church ill. The number of gay suicides is a grim statistic, and religion is a significant factor in gay Christian suicides.

It is sad that some people cannot see a love that wants to protect, support and give joy to the person someone is meant to be with. Instead, that love is illegitimate, unblessed, out of God's holy garden. It is said to be a sin but gay couples feel so blessed. Extend the love, extend the blessing.

If you support this view, please email your local bishop.

M. FITCH, Norwich.

Fine the French

WE SHOULD fine France for allowing fare-paying passengers

to travel in unregistered, unlicensed, uninsured craft.

GORDON DOWNEY,
Hastings, East Sussex.

Future ills

AM I being simplistic about GP appointments? When I was growing up, if you weren't feeling well or developed something overnight, you went to see the doctor. How do I know if I will feel unwell in two or three weeks' time?

JUNE ESTE, Newbury, Berks.

Sorry you're leaving

HOW to get staff back in the office (Mail)? Follow Elon Musk's dictum: 'If you don't show up, we will assume you have resigned.'

BOB TERRY, Thanet, Kent.

Rishi was right

OUR country's finances would have been safer in the hands of a prime minister with a sound economic background. Just about everything Rishi Sunak warned would happen has come to pass, although as it is party conference season, he is denied the opportunity to stand up in Parliament and say: 'I told you your economic policy would be disastrous.' Let's hope our new Chancellor has some idea how to fix this mess.

HELEN MONTAGUE,
Hunstanton, Norfolk.

Glow and see

FOOTBALL and rugby clubs propose changing kick-off times to reduce electricity costs. Surely luminous balls are the answer.

R.C.R. CROWLEY,
Bovey Tracey, Devon.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

IF anyone says, 'I love God', yet hates his brother, he is a liar.
1 John 4:20

LETTER OF THE WEEK

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CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF A LOVED ONE

HAVE you lost a relative or friend in recent months whose life you'd like to celebrate? Our column on Friday's letters page tells the stories of ordinary people who lived extraordinary

lives. Email a 500-word tribute and a favourite photo to: lives@dailymail.co.uk or write to: Extraordinary Lives, Daily Mail, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT, including your phone number.

DEBATE

Which overused phrase is most annoying?

WHY do so many people say 'you know' in nearly every sentence they utter? Football pundits are probably the worst offenders. In an hour-long TV programme I watched recently, one of them said it 61 times.

DAVID MILNES,
Sevenoaks, Kent.

POLITICIANS often begin their pronouncements with 'to be clear', then

proceed to say something that is muddled and ambiguous.

ANGELA PRUSS, Chigwell, Essex.

TO AVOID answering questions directly, politicians who have memorised their irrelevant reply often begin with 'Well, what we must remember is... or 'What's important is that...'

R. HARRIS,
Tonbridge, Kent.

I'VE HEARD a lot of people, including celebrities, preface statements with 'I'm not going to lie'. Does that mean if they don't say it, they are lying?

DEREK WARD, Southampton.

THE phrase that really annoys me is 'going forward' instead of 'in future'. Another is 'at this moment in time' instead of 'now' or 'at the moment'.

DAVID BECK, Waterlooville, Hants.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

Compiled by Charles Legge

QUESTION Why do many young female American voices sound so croaky?

THIS phenomenon is called vocal fry — because it sounds like frying bacon. It's a way for Millennials, girls and boys, to signify they are part of an 'in crowd'. It has become an increasingly habitual manner of speaking which, like all things American, has crept into British culture.

Vocal fry was popularised by pop stars in the Noughties such as Katy Perry, Rihanna, Britney Spears and Kesha. The archetype is Britney's hit Baby One More Time, where she sings 'Oh baby, baby' using vocal fry.

Vocal fry has historically been used as a trick by male baritone singers to sing bass. It went by various names such as 'glottal scrape' or 'click' 'croak' or 'creaky' voice. It's achieved by squeezing the vocal [arytenoid] cartilages together. This allows the vocal cords to be loose and floppy. When air passes between them, they vibrate irregularly, causing the croak. In the classical world, fry is a sign of an unskilled singer.

Vocal fry's migration into everyday speech falls into the category of a learned behaviour, it's cognate with the adoption of inner city-slang and the upward glide at the end of a sentence.

Valerie Timmins, Bath, Somerset.

QUESTIONS

Q: Has any UK pop star had a hit abroad by re-recording a song in a foreign language?

Jane Mansfield, Leeds.

Q: What is the significance of the small crosses carved into kerbstones around Central London?

Michael Wilkinson, London WC2.

Q: Is it unhealthy to reuse cooking oil?

Peter Smith, Durham.

Why Britney loves a fry-up



Croaky queen: Britney Spears's 1998 video for her hit, Baby One More Time

QUESTION In Victorian times, who were the Banner Ladies?

BANNER Ladies, once jokingly described as human billboards, first became popular in 1870s America. They were young women recruited to advertise local businesses by wearing the items they sold. They might be dressed in bread and pretzels to advertise a bakery, flowers to promote a florist's or cutlery and scissors on behalf of a hardware store.

There was no limit to the advertisers' creativity as they dressed women in chairs, carpets, lightbulbs and horseshoes.

One woman was decorated with 16 hand-painted shaving mugs by a pottery designer, one wore a collection of starched collars to advertise a laundry and another sported a camera as a hat

to endorse a photography studio. A jewellery store asked its Banner Lady to wear a clock on her head.

The women would carry signs bearing the name and address of the store they were working for. The craze, which arose because it saved stores the expense of buying more permanent advertising space, spread across the Atlantic to Europe.

The Banner Ladies would be photographed in their extravagant outfits and copies of the pictures circulated as cabinet cards, the collection of which was a novelty in an era when many depicted famous actresses and courtesans.

The Banner Lady phenomenon lasted 20 or 30 years before being overshadowed by the growing popularity of picture postcards but, even today, the word banner is still used to describe the click-inducing advertising found on websites.

Ian MacDonald, Billericay, Essex.

QUESTION If you sent a letter in 19th-century London, could you expect a reply within two hours?

FURTHER to the earlier answer, this must have been the case at one time. I have postcards sent to and from my grandmother in the early 1900s before World War I. They were written and posted in the morning to say, 'see you for tea at 4 o'clock this afternoon'.

Mavis Watling, Sittingbourne, Kent.

■ IS THERE a question to which you want to know the answer? Or do you know the answer to a question here? Write to: Charles Legge, Answers To Correspondents, Daily Mail, 2 Derry Street, London W8 5TT; or email charles.legge@dailymail.co.uk. A selection is published, but we're unable to enter into individual correspondence.

TODAY'S RECIPE: Pumpkin soup with savoury granola

EASY autumn standby. Serves: 4

Ingredients

1 pumpkin (1.5kg), peeled and chopped, seeds reserved
50g jumbo oats
2 tsp coriander seeds
1½ tsp chilli flakes
1 tsp tamari
1 tsp maple syrup



2 tbsp olive oil
1 onion, chopped
2 celery sticks, chopped
2 carrots, chopped
3 garlic cloves, sliced
1 litre veg stock

Method

1 Rinse pumpkin seeds. Spread out on a plate, pat dry. Toast 50g of seeds in pan over medium heat with oats and 1 tsp each of coriander seeds and chilli flakes for three minutes. Stir in tamari and maple syrup. Simmer for 30 seconds. Transfer to a plate.

2 Heat oil and cook onion, celery, carrots, garlic and pumpkin, along with remaining spices and seasoning, for 10 mins. Pour in stock. Simmer with lid on for 20-25 mins. Blitz using hand blender. Serve with savoury granola sprinkled on top.

■ SUBSCRIBE to BBC Good Food Magazine for just £9.99 every six issues, plus receive a griddle plate and skewers set from Jean-Patrick worth £59.99 — perfect for cooking more healthily. Use link and code buysubscriptions.com/GFMAIL22

goodfood

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SOLUTIONS TO SATURDAY'S PUZZLES

GIANT CROSSWORD

ACROSS: 12 Make a meal of. 13 Cicada. 14 Retire. 16 Soda. 17 Landscape. 18 Robot. 19 Pump. 20 Thinktank. 22 Shaft. 23 Concourse. 27 Stardom. 30 Big toe. 31 Help. 32 Abuse. 35 Sham. 36 Lexicon. 38 Trim. 39 Bulwark. 42 Beat-up. 45 Moist. 46 Take off. 47 Dupe. 48 Edge. 50 Dullard. 52 Ultra. 54 Rubble. 56 Bristle. 57 Wand. 59 Prowess. 61 Oral. 64 Paean. 66 Itch. 67 Ardent. 69 Paunchy. 72 Easy chair. 73 Aspen. 74 In essence. 79 Smut. 81 Inert. 82 Rigmale. 83 Bile. 85 Assert. 86 Tiring. 87 Down the line.

DOWN: 1 Halo.

2 Remain. 3 Amulet. 4 Damning. 5 Lousy. 6 Side effect. 7 Carry. 8 Bamboozle. 9 Protect. 10 Stop. 11 Premises. 15 Cachet. 21 Hutch. 24 Unbowed. 25 Kimchi. 26 Shrink. 28 Remit. 29 Owl. 33 Example. 34 Suffer. 37 Noted. 40 Repel. 41 Po-faced. 43 Eider. 44 Puddle. 46 Thump. 49 Ecstasy. 51 Apathy. 53 Thorny. 55 Brown. 58 Drawstring. 60 Ska. 62 Ad hoc. 63 At liberty. 65 Alarmist. 68 Dredge. 70 Thrifty. 71 Ongoing. 75 Seethe. 76 Embalm. 77 Stark. 78 Mason. 80 Tier. 84 Lend.

SUKO

5	6	8
16	17	
3	2	1
18	19	
4	9	7

SUDOKU

8	5	6	9	3	7	1	2	4
2	3	9	4	8	1	6	7	5
1	7	4	2	6	5	3	8	9
9	4	3	6	7	2	8	5	1
6	8	5	1	4	3	7	9	2
7	1	2	5	9	8	4	3	6
3	2	1	7	5	4	9	6	8
5	9	8	3	1	6	2	4	7
4	6	7	8	2	9	5	1	3

SUGURU

3	1	3	4	2	1
2	4	2	1	5	4
3	5	3	4	3	2
4	2	1	2	1	5
1	3	5	3	4	3
5	2	4	1	2	1

FUTOSHIKI

4	2	3	1	5
3	4	5	2	1
2	1	4	5	3
5	3	1	4	2
1	5	2	3	4

PUZZLE PRIZE WINNERS

Saturday, September 10
Giant Crossword: £750 to Annelie Kelly, Richmond, Surrey.

Week beginning September 12,
Daily Sudoku: £500 to Diana Royle, Brighton.

Daily Word Search: £500 to David Nolan, Bramshott, Hants.

Daily Codeword: £750 to Marie Trotter, Sale, Gr. Manchester.

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The Company is incorporated in the British Virgin Islands with registration number: BC# 1811678

Notice is hereby given that Nigel Massicot of Sage Corporate Consultants Limited, PO Box 762, Skelton Baylot, Fish Bay, Tortola, British Virgin Islands, VG1110, was appointed as voluntary liquidator of the Company on 21st September 2022. Creditors of the Company are invited to lodge particulars of their claims no later than 24th October 2022 with the liquidator by email: management@sagebvi.com.
Nigel Massicot, Liquidator

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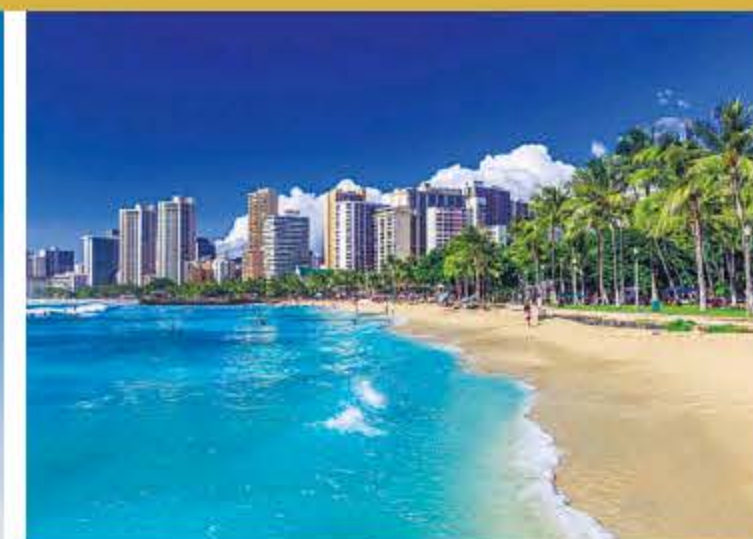
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APRIL 2024

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- Sat 13 Mystery Island, Vanuatu**
- Mon 15 Suva, Fiji**
- Tue 16 Lautoka, Fiji**
- Thu 18 Apia, Samoa**
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Pago Pago, American Samoa
- Wed 24 Maui (Lahaina), Hawaii**
- Thu 25 Honolulu (Oahu), Hawaii**
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- Fri 26 - Honolulu (Oahu), Hawaii**
- Sat 27** Made up of eight volcanic islands, the state boasts dramatic landscapes and a rich culture that's everything you'd expect, plus more. Feast on local cuisine at a sunset luau and discover the elegant stories and histories told through hula dancing. To the west of Honolulu is Pearl Harbor, here take a moment to pay your respects and discover the important part it played during WWII
- Sun 28 Honolulu (Oahu), Hawaii**
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- Mon 29 Arrive in London**
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Put those stairlift qualms to bed

A STAIRLIFT can be a life-changer — but the biggest challenge might be accepting that we need one. Many of us struggle on for far too long before finally admitting that we need help. And that lost time often involves relying on assistance from others to use the stairs or being confined to the ground floor with sleeping quarters in the corner of the living room. For others the decision comes more quickly, triggered by something as simple as a trip or fall in the home. There's a rollercoaster



Picture: STANNAH

of emotions — yet they can be put to bed with a simple ride on a customisable stairlift. Stannah is at the top of

the tree when it comes to making and fitting stairlifts, having installed more than 700,000. What's important is realising that there are two arguments going on in our heads. Firstly, we don't want to give up our sense of independence. Secondly, we don't want to move from the home we know and love — it might be possible but is an inconvenient and unwelcome change. Adapting the home to make getting around easier is the way forward — and upward. A stairlift makes staying at home a realistic and

affordable option, and restores the freedom to enjoy the whole of our home again. Stannah designs stairlifts to suit all types of stairs — straight up and down and those awkward ones with bends in them. They can be customised to suit the user's needs as well as their home, and they come in varied fabrics, colours and trims — so a stairlift really has style. With the option to buy or rent, and the choice of new or reconditioned models, a Stannah stairlift means that the stairs are no longer that huge mountain to climb.

Lift is smart option for baby boomers

AS BABY boomers move into the third age, their inherent sense of design and style remains as strong as ever. But while many things might have changed for this new generation of later-life



Picture: STILTZ

consumers, negotiating stairs can still be a leading mobility predicament to solve. Expectations are now for design to remain as important as functionality. And what is more design-led than a homelift from the UK's largest provider, Stiltz? A Stiltz Homelift is a confident choice for the discerning consumer — a harmonious blend of function and form designed specifically for home use. It's a contemporary problem-solving solution with special design features. Take, for example, the Trio+ with its compact footprint that can accommodate up to three people or a wheelchair, yet nimble enough to fit into the tightest of spaces. Then there is the ThruCar concept, unique to Stiltz,

which allows the user to enter and exit through opposite sides of the lift car. This is perfect for centre-stage installs away from walls and for wheelchair users to transfer seamlessly without turning. Rather than being hydraulic, the Stiltz Homelift really is plug-and-play. It is powered through a dedicated, standard domestic electric socket which operates a remarkably quiet motor housed in the top of the lift car. Running costs are reassuringly low too, at less than 1p for 50 journeys. The baby boomers may be slowing down, but they're still leading the way when it comes to making smart choices and redefining ageing and mobility.

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give you and your family members a break, or a new home, these care homes offer comfort, security, and peace of mind. At their heart are 'Food, Fun and Friendship', with each home providing hearty, nutritious meals and a wealth of fun activities. These range from coffee mornings and crafts to day trips and historical adventures. The events and activities on offer are all designed to suit residents' interests and



Picture: CARE SOUTH

ensure that they can embrace their golden years. Care South is a not-for-profit care

provider with 15 care homes in Dorset, Devon, Somerset and West Sussex.

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Picture: AMPLIFON

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Some hearing clinics will offer free trials of hearing aids.

Relief from my gastro symptoms

Christina has her confidence back

CHRISTINA GREEN has had gastrointestinal problems for years, causing stomach aches, wind and nausea. Her doctor has prescribed medication in the past, but she suffered side effects that made her feel worse, and troublesome fatigue. 'I have tried several other natural remedies such as peppermint oil and aloe vera before, but neither was much help. My stomach issues have been very frustrating, especially during a bad bout

of symptoms. I'd often put things off and feel anxious about going out to social occasions.' Around two years ago, Christina, 74, saw Silicolgel advertised. 'I decided to give it a try, not really expecting it to

help. But I was pleasantly surprised by the results — it worked! 'I feel more relaxed and confident in daily life. I've recommended it to others as well and I hope it helps them get their life back, too.'

■ SILICIC acid in a colloidal and hydrated gel can ease upper gastrointestinal disorders including reflux, heartburn, stomach pain, nausea, abdominal discomfort and flatulence. Once taken,



out of the body. Users typically report relief from their symptoms, feeling in control of their life again and being able to exercise, cope better at work, use public transport and accept social invitations that would once have been impossible. Silicic acid gel can be purchased in bottles or travel-sized sachets from Boots, Superdrug, Holland & Barrett and health stores.

the gel forms a protective and soothing coating that lines the stomach, adsorbs irritants and passes them

bottles or travel-sized sachets from Boots, Superdrug, Holland & Barrett and health stores.

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25 years without any fence painting

innovative range of fencing that is truly inspired. It not only allows you to mix and match colours to your heart's content, but will maintain its appearance for years to come. In fact, this is one of the world's best maintenance-free fences.

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several times a year is all that is required to preserve a stunning backdrop that's a joy to behold every time you look out of your window. And, when professionally installed, it can stand up to wind gusts of 130mph. This is 'fit and forget' fencing at its very best.



Picture: COLOURFENCE

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Classics add spice to your winter wardrobe

THE latest confident, uplifting range from Cotswold Collections is all about town and country, so gear yourself up for a season of elegance, style and comfort with rich, bold colours, textures, luxury and warmth. These British heritage pieces come in gorgeous natural earthy tones to spice up your winter wardrobe, and are made in traditional checks,



Picture: COTSWOLD COLLECTIONS

tweeds, patterns and pleats. Additionally, layer up in smart coats and warm padded jackets, perfect for all weathers and occasions and beat the chill

with sumptuous accessories to complete your look. The ever-popular knitwear range has been expanded, offering versatile seasonal elegance. And for cold winter nights, cosy up in soft, warm nightwear and slippers or lounge in comfort in luxurious velour separates. The brand fills an important niche for high-quality British style, by supplying an accessible blend of classics with luxurious touches,

offering timeless, smart and wearable pieces in a wide range of sizes. Trading for nearly 30 years, this brand creates looks that appeal to, suit and flatter the more mature female figure. Garments are designed in-house with meticulous care and attention going into sourcing superb quality fabric and yarns with an emphasis on natural fibres. This ensures they maintain their great shape for years to come.

AS THE nation faces its worst financial crisis in decades, Dogs Trust is urgently seeking help for the dogs who will feel the most impact. In recent months, Dogs Trust has received a record number of enquiries from people needing to hand over their dogs to the charity. In August, it received almost 5,000 enquiries from desperate owners who feel they've run out of options. According to a recent poll of owners, 43 per cent of respondents thought they would find it more difficult to give their dog all they needed, compared to before the cost-of-living crisis began. Vet bills are the biggest financial canine concern for the coming year, while

Doggy 'pawrents' needed in light of the financial crisis



Picture: DOGS TRUST

almost a fifth of people are most worried about the cost of feeding them. To ensure Dogs Trust can continue to be there for every dog who needs help, the charity is urgently seeking more foster carers who can offer temporary homes to dogs in need, freeing

up kennel space for those most at risk. In particular, Dogs Trust is calling for experienced owners with space in their homes and hearts for dogs that are more difficult to find forever homes for, such as those that are big, un-housetrained or have challenging behaviour. All fosterers are supported by a dedicated team of home-from-home coordinators. More information can be found online on the charity's rehoming and fostering pages.

Homes & Gardening

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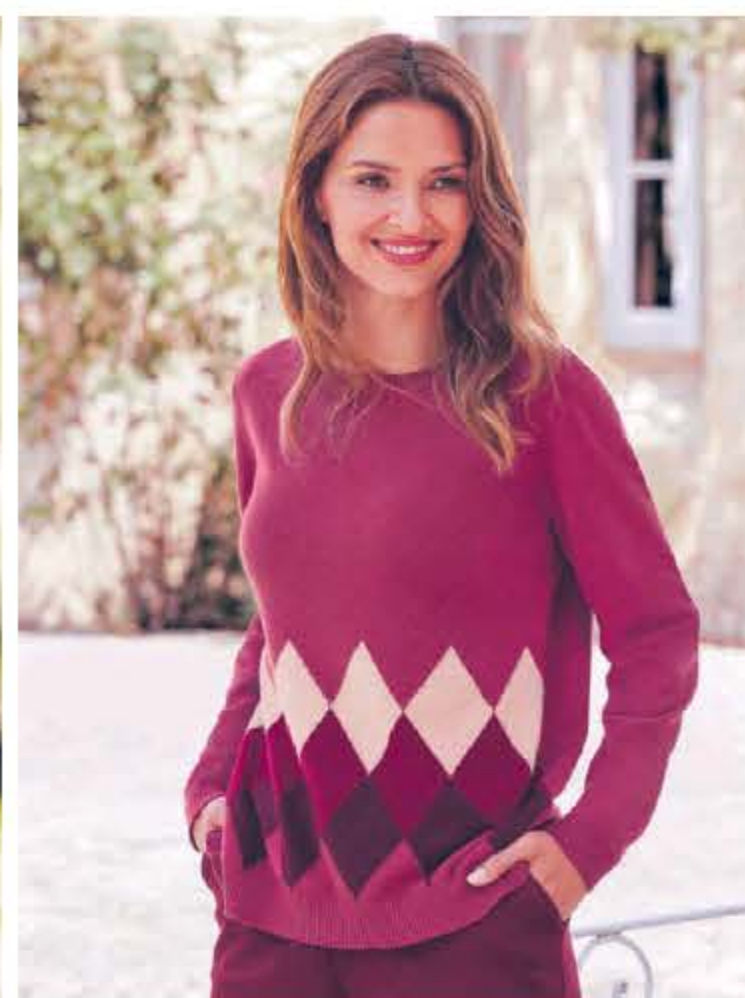
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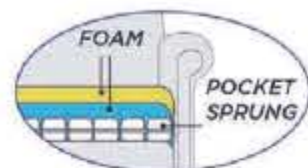
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£12billion
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gas assets in past year

Tories must show steel

AS IF the Prime Minister did not have enough to worry about, a row over thousands of jobs in the steel industry is blowing up just as an already bruising party conference gets under way.

British Steel, which despite its name is Chinese-owned, has, according to Sky News, gone cap in hand to Business Secretary Jacob Rees-Mogg asking for an urgent bailout likely to amount to hundreds of millions of pounds.

The firm claims without emergency support its blast furnaces are unlikely to be viable due to the energy crisis.

The business employs 4,000 people directly, paying higher than average wages in Red Wall areas including Scunthorpe, where voters' allegiance to the Conservatives may be tentative. Thousands more supply chain jobs could also be affected.

Handing large amounts of taxpayer cash to a Chinese corporation in the current atmosphere would be inflammatory. In the Cameron

Ruth Sunderland

GROUP BUSINESS EDITOR

and Osborne years, the Tories tried cosying up to Beijing, but the mood has been souring for some years, as relations have been strained because of the treatment of protesters in Hong Kong, and abuse of Uighur Muslims.

Government is no longer relaxed about Chinese involvement in key sectors such as telecoms, nuclear energy or indeed steel.

It hardly needs saying that the demand for financial help, from a company that boasted of its open chequebook when it took over British Steel three years ago, comes at a highly inopportune moment

when the Government has been accused of fiscal irresponsibility in its mini-budget.

As I warned at the time, the sale of British Steel to Jingye for around £50m in late 2019 was flawed from the start. The deal smacked of expediency: It conveniently avoided job losses in northern constituencies in the middle of Boris Johnson's election campaign.

The suspicion was that the Chinese were buying a key asset on the cheap. At the time, Jingye's chairman Li Ganpo, a former Communist party official, turned on the treacle hose to full nozzle.

HE raved about a 'splendid future' in which British Steel would 'revitalise the glory' and 'impress the world!' 'Need funds? No problem. Jingye is here to invest.'

Instead of taking that torrent of guff at face value, the then-government should have retained a golden share in British Steel and forced the Chinese to make legal undertakings on jobs, investment and supply-chain firms. As it is, ministers are in a bind. The

steel industry, though much diminished, still employs 34,500 people directly and supports another 43,000 supply chain roles.

Government could provide support, including help on high electricity costs, which were a problem long before the Ukraine war broke out. In 2019/20, for instance, UK producers were paying 62pc more than those in Germany. The industry has been asking government to help iron out the disparity for years.

Steel in the UK could have a great future. Britain is well placed for net zero production thanks to our expertise in electric arc furnaces and carbon storage in the North Sea.

Government projects will require 5.2m tons of steel over the next five years. Procurement from the UK instead of importing could boost the economy by up to £4bn.

Trade regulators need to take a realistic, rather than a dogmatic free market approach to the dumping of cheap Chinese rebar, which they seem, belatedly, to have realised.

If the Truss government is serious about growth and securing our industrial future, it needs to commit to long-term support for steel, rather than selling out to self-interested overseas buyers.

MORRISONS FACES £95M SURGE IN BORROWING COSTS



MORRISONS is bracing for a £95m hit as the cost of servicing its huge debt pile soars.

Market turmoil will see the embattled grocer face an additional £35m in annual interest payments on its £6.6bn of borrowing, credit rating agency Moody's said.

It will face a further £60m shock if the Bank of England raises interest rates to 4.25pc, as economists expect. Each 0.25 percentage-point increase in the Bank's lending rate will cost Morrisons an additional £7m to £8m, it said.

The huge spike in borrowing costs will raise further questions about the

role of private equity firms, which rely on huge amounts of debt to fund takeovers, in the UK grocery market.

It is the latest blow for the retailer since it fell into the hands of US private equity shark Clayton, Dubilier and Rice last year.

Since the £7bn deal, spearheaded by ex-Tesco boss Sir Terry Leahy (pictured), the Bradford-based grocer has seen its market share tumble and lost its coveted spot in the 'Big Four' of UK supermarkets to discount Aldi.

A source close to CD&R told The Sunday Times that Morrisons had access to substantial cash.

Loss-making Bank North to wind down

Fintech challenger fails to raise capital

A START-UP challenger bank which aimed to disrupt the small business lending market has thrown in the towel after failing to raise cash to keep it afloat.

Bank North was trying to find £30m to secure a full banking licence from the Bank of England, which would have allowed it to take deposits from retail savers.

But in a letter to shareholders over the weekend, seen by the Daily Mail, the stricken bank's chairman Ron Emerson said it had been 'unable to close this critical capital raise within the necessary timeline'.

'It is therefore with great regret that I have to inform you that... the board of Bank North has decided to initiate a solvent wind-down of the bank, with immediate effect,'

by Patrick Toohar

Emerson added. Bank North is in talks with an unnamed third party to sell its £17m loan book and transfer its Manchester-based lending team - about a third of its 60 staff.

A deal could be done in the next few weeks but Emerson cautioned: 'Completion of this transaction is critical to ensuring a solvent wind-down, where the priority will be to ensure full payment of our creditors, including staff, and that all outstanding liabilities are paid.'

Whatever the outcome, the bank will hand back its licence to the Prudential Regulatory Authority, which approves new banks.

The news is another headache for beleaguered Bank of England governor Andrew Bailey, who is already battling to

shore up confidence in the mortgage, pensions and currency markets amid ongoing turmoil. It is also a blow to the Government's 'levelling up' agenda as Bank North focused on plugging a gap in the regional lending market.

Founded in 2018, the 'fintech-enabled' start-up specialised in making loans to local small businesses of between £500,000 and £5m. It began lending to them a year ago after acquiring a restricted banking licence.

Emerson, a former chairman of the state-backed British Business Bank, blamed 'a gathering storm of economic uncertainty over the past six months' for Bank North's failure. Latest accounts show it lost £1.9m in the nine months to March 2021.

The Bank of England declined to comment.

by Neil Craven

CONSUMER goods giant Unilever is heading for a clash with rival Reckitt Benckiser in its hunt for a new boss after the chief executives of both firms announced their exit within weeks of one another.

The FTSE100 companies, two of the biggest on the London stock market, will be fishing in the same pool for talent with both sizing up senior executives from L'Oréal and Procter & Gamble. Unilever announced last week that Alan

Unilever and Reckitt go head to head in battle for chief executives

Joep would step down after less than four years at the helm.

His departure follows a tumultuous year in which the company - which owns global brands such as Dove - infuriated investors with its bungled attempt to buy

GSK's consumer healthcare business. The firm also incurred the wrath of fund manager Terry Smith, who accused it of losing its focus on profit.

At Reckitt, Laxman Narasimhan quit to become chief executive at

coffee chain Starbucks. British firms face fierce competition to lure top executives as US corporations typically offer far more lucrative rewards.

Unilever has invited City investors to a strategy day in Decem-

ber, which could allow internal candidates to prove themselves.

Martin Deboo, consumer goods expert at broker Jefferies, said Hanneke Faber, who runs Unilever's nutrition division, and Fernando Fernandez, who looks after beauty and wellbeing products, are regarded as potential candidates.

Unilever and Reckitt may try to poach from each other. Deboo said Reckitt executives Kris Licht and Volker Kuhn could be on the list of target candidates for Unilever.

RACING RESULTS

KELSO

1.25 — WELL EDUCATED (J Bewley) 4-11; Evita Du Mesnil 28-1 2; Bollingerandkrug 4-1 3. 8 ran. (G Bewley), nk, hd. Total: 5.00; 4.70, 1.50, 1.20. Ex: 59.20. Cf: 470.62. Tf: 258.10. CSF: 93.82.

2.00 — BALKALIN (A Anderson) 7-1 1; Traprain Law 13-8F 2; Game Beasa 14-1 3. 6 ran. (M Barnes), 2½, 2½. Total: 8.00; 3.10, 1.40. Ex: 20.80. Tf: 173.10. CSF: 19.66. NR: Snake Roll.

2.35 — THE VOLLAN (B Hughes) 9-2 1; Haute Estime 6-5F 2; 3 ran. (L Morgan), 5½. Total: 5.50; Ex: 7.20. Tf: 6.90. CSF: 9.87.

3.12 — GOLD DES BOIS (C O'Farrell) 6-4F 1; Malystic 15-8(2ndFav) 2; Nero Rock 8-1 3. 13 ran. (J Jardine), 1¼, 3½. Total: 2.50; Ex: 4.40. Tf: 10.00. CSF: 4.79.

3.45 — SERIOUS OPERATOR (D R Fox) 5-2(2ndFav) 1; Mortlach 10-11F 2; Whelans Bridge 5-1 3. 7 ran. (L Russell), 1¼, 1¼. Total: 3.60; 1.80, 1.10. Ex: 6.10. Tf: 19.30. CSF: 5.27.

4.20 — RADDLE AND HUM (B Hughes) evensF 1; Prince Dundee 5-2 2; Exit To Where 9-4(2ndFav) 3. 5 ran. (Mrs A Duffield), 11½, 5½. Total: 2.00; Ex: 3.20. Tf: 2.40. CSF: 3.71. NR: Readysteadybeau.

4.55 — RICKETY GATE (C Rabbitt) 11-4F 1; Castletown 4-1(2ndFav) 2; Coup De Gold 4-1(2ndFav) 3. 13 ran. (N Richards), 4¼, hd. Total: 3.80; 1.70, 1.80, 1.80. Ex: 18.60. Cf: 45.22. Tf: 38.10. CSF: 14.09. NR: Shaws Bridge.

Placepot £351.30. O'pot £32.70.

UTTOWER

1.09 — ARE U WISE TO THAT (Jonjo O'Neill Jr) evensF 1; Meetmelater 150-1 2; Zuralg 8-1 3. 6 ran. (Jonjo O'Neill), 5½. Total: 2.00; 1.10, 1.70, 30. Ex: 104.70. Tf: 696.50. CSF: 48.00. NR: Great Heart Jac.

1.43 — MOFASA (Luca Morgan) 7-1 1; Colonel Harry evensF 2; Seigneur Des As 5-1 3. 6 ran. (M Scudamore), 7½, 7½. Total: 8.00; 2.80, 1.20. Ex: 15.40. Tf: 55.80. CSF: 15.17.

2.18 — AUCUNRISQUE (T Cannon) 4-6F 1; Jettote 2-1(2ndFav) 2; Stepany Causeway 11-2 3. 4 ran. (C Gordon), ¾, 4L. Total: 1.67; Ex: 2.10. Tf: 2.60. CSF: 2.53.

2.53 — GOOD IMPRESSION (B R Jones) 4-1(2ndFav) 1; Luna Dora 10-1 2; Chef De Troupe 11-1 3. 10 ran. (B J Llewellyn), ¾, hd. Total: 5.00; 1.80, 2.70, 3.30. Ex: 45.40. Cf: 408.81. Tf: 467.40. CSF: 43.20.

3.28 — LUCKY LOVER BOY (H Brooke) 2-1F 1; Couldbeawepson 15-2 2; Thistle Do 6-6 1 3. 8 ran. (Oliver Greenall & Josh Guerriero), nk, 4L. Total: 3.00; 1.10, 1.90, 11.50. Ex: 16.70. Tf: 728.65. Cf: 501.50. CSF: 17.45. NR: Kilcaragh Boy.

4.03 — EASKEY LAD (J Bowen) 9-2(2ndFav) 1; Flying Vase 5-1 2; High Counsel 12-1 3. 8 ran. (R Curtis), 3½, 3½. Total: 5.50; 1.60, 2.00, 2.90. Ex: 23.80. Cf: 249.17. Tf: 217.80. CSF: 27.05.

4.38 — GEORGE DES CHAMPS (S Bowen) 15-2 1; Mr Yeats 4-1JtFav 2; Isithebaropen 10-1 3. 8 ran. (R Curtis), 2½, ¾. Total: 8.50; 2.50, 1.30, 2.60. Ex: 40.10. Cf: 303.84. Tf: 328.90. CSF: 38.38.

5.13 — JAMACHO (Paul O'Brien) 7-2 1; Galice Macalo 9-4(2ndFav) 2; Katpoll 85-40F 3. 5 ran. (C Longsdon), 6L, 9L. Total: 4.50; 1.70, 1.80. Ex: 13.00. Tf: 25.60. CSF: 12.06. Jackpot £2,775.80.

Placepot £64.60. O'pot £23.20.

LONGCHAMP

1.17 — BELBEK (M Barzalona) 1; Gamestop 2; Breizh Sky 3. 8 ran. (A Fabre), nk, nk. Total: £18.70; £3.90, £3.00, £1.90. Tf: £35.90. NR: The Antarctic.

1.50 — BLUE ROSE CEN (A Lemaitre) 1; Gan Teorainn 2; Never Ending Story 3. 12 ran. (Chr Head), 5L, shd. Total: £5.70; £2.20, £8.50, £2.70. Tf: £148.40.

2.25 — LADY PRINCESS (J Crowley) 1; Ebraz 2; Djafar 3. 16 ran. (T Fourcy), 1¼, 3L. Total: £3.00; £1.60, £3.50, £9.40. Tf: £231.90.

3.05 — ALPINISTA (L Morris) 1; Valdeni 2; Torquator Tasso 3. 20 ran. (Sir M Prescott (UK)), ¾, nk. Total: £4.30; £1.70, £2.70, £2.30.

3.50 — PLACE DU CARROUSEL (M Barzalona) 1; Nashwa 2; Above The Curve 3. 16 ran. (A Fabre), ¾, shd. Total: £42.00; £5.30, £1.40, £1.80. Tf: £88.90.

4.25 — THE PLATINUM QUEEN (H Doyle) 1; White Lavender 2; Coeur De Pierre 3. 19 ran. (R Fahey (UK)), shd, nk. Total: £2.40; £1.50, £5.30, £2.00. Tf: £73.10. NFs: Caturna, Castle Star, A Case Of You, Agiato, Berseuil, Mitbaahy, Tees Spirit, Rassel, Mooneista, Teresa Mendoza, Fictus, Miramir.

5.00 — KINROSS (L Dettori) 1; Malavath 2; Entscheiden 3. 10 ran. (R Beckett (UK)), 2L, 1L. Total: £2.70; £1.60, £4.00, £6.60. Tf: £149.30.

HOTSPOTS

WORK WHISPER
MARSH BENHAM
(Windsor, 1.30)

WEIGHTING GAME
ELUSIVE ARTIST
(Wolverhampton, 6.30)
Down 19lb from last winning mark.

BURNT FINGERS
STORM MASTER
(Wolverhampton, 8.30)

CAPTAIN HEATH TRIO
THE PRINCES POET (nap)
(Windsor, 1.30)

GAINSBURG (nb)
(Pontefract, 3.40)

RHYTHM
(Pontefract, 4.50)

WINDSOR SSR

1.30 — HANDICAP (6) £7,500 added (£3,726) 6f 12yds (16)

101 (8) 359 SWISS PRIDE 13 (P) (D8) R Teal 6-9-12

102 (12) 925 NUBOUGH 19 (T) (D2) M Pattinson 6-9-12.....J Bryan
103 (15) 93L THE PRINCES POET 37 (C) (G) E J-Houghton 4-9-12

104 (10) 395 MARSH BENHAM 21 (G) G Baker 3-9-11.....P Cosgrave

105 (11) 454 JOY CHOI 117 (D) (S) M Saunders 4-9-10

106 (4) 459 PETTOCHSIDE 12 (C&D2D7) (GS) J Bridger 13-9-10

107 (1) 522 BIG BARD 21 (P) (D2BF) (G) G L Moore 4-9-10

108 (16) 255 VAPE 38 (P) (C&D2D) (S) J Flint 5-9-9.....A Keeley (5)

109 (2) 588 THE COLA KID 35 (PT) (D4) (G) G Harris 5-9-9.....J Fahy

110 (14) 445 LUCIA JOY 44 (G) G Boughy 3-9-9.....B Sayette (3)

111 (3) 8-05 THOMAS EQUINAS 234 D Ivory 3-9-7.....N Currie

112 (9) 337 CONNIE'S ROSE 8 (D) (G) G Harris 3-9-7.....R Hornby

113 (6) 349 EVASIVE POWER 35 (D3BF) (GS) R Brisland 6-9-7

114 (7) L0-2 AUTUMN ANGEL 22 A Carroll 3-9-7.....Mollie Phillips (3)

115 (5) 402 GREY GALLEON 22 (P) (CD3) (G) R Teal 8-9-5

116 (13) 212 BLUE COLLAR LAD 8 (G) R Brisland 3-9-4 David Egan

Probable SP: 9-2 Blue Collar Lad, 5 Big Bard, 8 Grey Galleon, 10 Autumn Angel, Vape, Nubough, 12 Joy Choi, Swiss Pride, 14 Connie's Rose, Evasive Power, The Princes Poet, Pettochside, 16 Marsh Benham, 20 Lucia Joy.

2.02 — MAIDEN STAKES (5) £8,000 added (£4,320) 6f 12yds (16)

201 (6) 5 ANGEL OF TRAFALGAR 17 Tom Clover 3-9-7.....N Callan

202 (15) FLIGHT MODE W Muir & C Grassick 3-9-7.....L Edmunds

203 (10) 86 HAVEAGOBEL 13 J Boyle 3-9-7.....P Cosgrave

204 (11) 88 IMPRINT 17 M Rimell 3-9-7.....R Hornby

205 (5) MAXZENO M Appleby 3-9-7.....F Larson (5)

206 (12) 88 PAY FOR ADAAY (H) S Hodgson 3-9-7.....W Carver (3)

207 (13) 88 ROMAN TEMPEST 144 J Boyle 3-9-7.....J F Egan

208 (16) 9 SPIRIT OF CAHALA 17 R Teal 3-9-7.....C Hutchinson (5)

209 (2) A LADY FOREVER R Brisland 3-9-2.....T Ladd

210 (1) BLUE COLLAR LASS R Brisland 3-9-2.....David Egan

211 (8) 622 CALETA UNRISE 15 (H) H Palmer 3-9-2.....H Davies (3)

212 (3) 5L CITTON 165 J Tate 3-9-2.....S M Levey

213 (4) 34 ELETTARIA 35 C Cox 3-9-2.....J Fahy

214 (9) 2 FANCIFUL 20 W Haggas 3-9-2.....T Marquand

215 (14) 2 SHADES OF SUMMER 199 J Tate 3-9-2.....A Atzeni

216 (7) 85 TWILIGHT MISCHIEF 54 H Candy 3-9-2.....D O'Neill

Probable SP: 9-4 Shades Of Summer, 11-4 Fanciful, 7-2 Caleta Sunrise, 7 Elettaria, 14 Twilight Mischief, Angel Of Trafalgar.

2.37 — NURSERY (5) £9,000 added (£4,536) 1m 2f (7)

301 (6) 444 EDGE OF DARKNESS 11 C & M Johnston 9-11

302 (5) 242 TELLATELLER 25 R Hannon 9-11.....P Dobbs

303 (7) 113 DIVINA GRACE 20 (G) R Guest 9-9.....C Shepherd

304 (3) 871 ENOCHDU 26 J Portman 9-4.....R Hornby

305 (4) 543 SYDNEY MEWS 21 A Balding 9-1.....H Davies (3)

306 (2) 517 RED ROSETTA 31 L Dace 8-10.....R Clutterbuck

307 (1) 616 MIRABELLO BAY 2 J S Moore 8-2.....A Keeley (5)

Probable SP: 2 Enochdu, 4 Tellateller, 5 Edge Of Darkness, Divina Grace, 6 Sydney Mews, 12 Mirabello Bay, 16 Red Rosetta.

3.12 — HANDICAP (3) £14,000 added (£7,560) 1m 3f 99yds (11)

401 (5) 830 GRAYHIDE 100 (T) (S) T Kent 8-10-0.....David Egan

402 (9) 56-3 WAHRAAN 38 (GS) Sir M Stoute 4-9-12.....Kingscote

403 (11) L12 BAD COMPANY 8 (P) (C) (S) J Boyle 5-9-10

404 (4) 26L SKY DEFENDER 363 (G) C & M Johnston 6-9-10

405 (2) 319 CELTIC ART 58 (G) J Scott 5-9-8.....C Hutchinson (5)

406 (8) 117 HAMAKI 16 (T) (GS) W Haggas 3-9-6.....T Marquand

407 (1) 296 KNIGHT OF HONOUR 17 J & T Gosden 3-9-5

408 (10) 740 SURREY MIST 68 (D) K P De Foy 3-9-4.....B Sayette (3)

409 (7) L7L NOBLE MASQUERADE 37 (V) (C&D2D) (G) E J-Houghton 5-9-3 Georgia Dobie (3)

410 (6) 96L SKY POWER 17 (P) R Beckett 5-9-2.....R Hornby

411 (3) L18 SOVEREIGN DUKE 16 (G) H Candy 7-8-10H Davies (3)

Probable SP: 10-3 Wahraan, 4 Hamaki, 9-2 Knight Of Honour, 5 Bad Company, 7 Surrey Mist, 14 Graphite, 16 Sovereign Duke, Sky Defender, 20 Celtic Art, Noble Masquerade.

544 TEMPLEHILLS 26 (T) (C&D) (S) N Twiston-Davies 11-11-2

Probable SP: 13-8 Storm Dennis, 11-4 Esprit De Somoza, 4 Shetland Bus, 5 Templehills, 10 Al Roc.

1.35 — JUVENILE MAIDEN HURDLE (4) £9,100 added (£4,575) 2m 7yds (7)

1 CAESAR'S PALACE F93 C Longsdon 11-2 Lilly Pinchin (3)

2 MEDYAF F255 D Skelton 11-2.....H Skelton

3 ONEFORTHGUTTER F161 J Williams 11-2.....C Todd

4 POWER GENERATION F100 S J Davies 11-2.....C Leonard

5 SUL ROGUE MISSION 33 (T) M Harris 11-2.....M Bastyan

6 LA BAILLE F07 R Bandey 10-9.....H Bannister

7 LEMON ICE F51 S Curran 10-9.....R McLernon

Probable SP: 11-8 Oneforthgutter, 10-3 Caesar's Palace, 7-2 Medyaf, 11-2 La Baille, 16 Rogue Mission.

2.10 — NOVICES' HURDLE (4) £8,000 added (£4,357) 2m 7yds (13)

1 5L-1 IT'S A GOOD NAME 113 (S) W Greetax 4-11-6.....H Brooke

2 64P CABAYO LORD GEORGE 26 (BT) Deborah Cole 6-11-0

3 54-F CARRIG CRUA 346 Christian Williams 6-11-0.....J Tudor

4 DANCING HARRY F43 (T) R Teal 5-11-0.....J M Davies

5 210-F DONAIRE 177 (HT) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-0.....S Twiston-Davies

6 826 GONE IN SIXTY 13 A Hales 5-11-0.....Harriet Tucker (7)

7 RRL-HARTNOLL HERO 184 (H) F Darnall 6-11-0.....A Johns

8 21L-MASTER DANCER 279 R Bandey 5-11-0.....H Bannister

9 674 MILFOLHAS HAS 20 P Bowen 6-11-0.....J Bowen

10 218-F PARRAMOUNT 541 C Longsdon 6-11-0.....A Coleman

11 P-BASELINE 163 P Hobbs 4-10-13.....T O'Brien

12 60 BUMPY EVANS 21 B Lund 4-10-13.....Sean Houlihan

13 7 SHYRVANN 20 (T) S Edmunds 4-10-13.....C Gethings

Probable SP: 11-4 Parramout, 7-2 Donaire, 4 Dancing Harry, 5 It's A Good Name, 8 Master Dancer, 14 Gone In Sixty, 16 Carrig Crua, 20 Shyrvann, Baseline.

2.45 — NOVICES' HANDICAP CHASE (5) £8,400 added (£3,812) 2m 3f 98yds (8)

1 F22-SUBLIME HEIGHTS 169 T Lawes 6-12-0.....T Cannon

2 F25-FAITQUE DE L'ISLE 220 M Scudamore 7-11-7.....R Patrick

3 424 HERONOLD 15 E Williams 5-11-7.....A Wedge

4 9ILL-ACES FULL 503 S Curran 7-11-4.....R McLernon

5 PP-3 NOTWOWN SEAMUS 127 (BT) D J Jeffreys 11-11-3T Bellamy

6 P-6L JACK THUNDER 64 (T) A Hales 8-10-11.....H Bannister

7 P33 TIME TO BITE 26 Chris Honour 7-10-9.....B Carver

8 61L-AHEAD OF SCHEDULE 85 (CBF) Mrs N Evans 7-10-7

Probable SP: 10-3 Time To Bite, 4 Sublime Heights, 5 Heronold, 6 Ahead Of Schedule, 7 Notown Seamus, Faitque De L'isle, 8 Jack Thunder, 16 Aces Full.

TRACK FACTS: L-H course. GOING: Good. Top jockey: Harry Skelton. Top trainer: D Skelton. Placed in the race last year: 1.00 Templehills (1st). Headgear first time: 2.10 Cabayo Lord George, Dancing Harry, Donaire, Shyrvann, 2.45 Jack Thunder, 3.20 Every Breakin Wave. Longest traveller: Milofhas Has (2.10) 193 miles. Drop in Class: 2.10 Donaire is down 5 grades on last run (Grade 2 to

ROBIN GOODFELLOW

1.30 The Princes Poet

2.02 Fanciful

2.37 Tellateller

3.12 Hamaki

3.47 Star Player

4.22 Klimova

4.57 Gentle Whinny

5.32 Foden

NEWMARKET — 2.02 Fanciful (nb); 5.32 KIRILENKO (nap).

3.47 — NURSERY (5) £9,000 added (£4,536) 1m 3yds (10)

501 (6) 246 STARNBERG 26 (B) R Hannon 9-11.....S M Levey

502 (3) 31L STAR PLAYER 19 S & E Cristof 9-9.....T Marquand

503 (7) 638 GRAND CENTRAL 26 (PT) C Cox 9-8.....J Fahy

504 (5) 165 GREASED LIGHTNING 30 E J-Houghton 9-8.....C Bishop

505 (8) 239 SAXON SCENE 45 W Muir & C Grassick 9-7.....L Edmunds

506 (2) 644 NOVAPORTIAN 18 (P) H Palmer 9-4.....H Davies (3)

507 (4) 957 ORCHESTRA 18 E Dunlop 9-6.....R Clutterbuck

508 (1) 214 KIND SPIRIT 21 C & M Johnston 9-5.....R Kingscote

509 (9) 364 CHOUROU 8 M Channon 9-4.....David Egan

Probable SP: 15-8 Star Player, 11-2 Starnberg, 6 Kind Spirit, 7 Novaportian, 8 Grand Central, 10 Saxon Scene.

4.22 — FILLIES' NOVICE STAKES (DIV 1) (5) £2 (Y-Y-O) £6,800 added (£3,672) 1m 3yds (10)

601 (6) 9 AMELIA'S AMBITION 9 E Dunlop 9-2.....R Clutterbuck

602 (3) 0 ANGEL DE LUZ 9 G Boughy 9-2.....B Sayette (3)

603 (5) L DAISY ROOTS 21 A West 9-2.....T Ladd

604 (8) 60L FOLK STAR D M Simcock 9-2.....H Turner

605 (10) 6 KLIMOVA 27 J Fashawe 9-2.....D Muscutt

606 (1) KRONA C & M Johnston 9-2.....A Atzeni

607 (2) 85 LIONELLA 74 A King 9-2.....M Harley



MARCUS TOWNEND

Racing Correspondent
reports from Longchamp

GOING into the Qatar Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe, Sir Mark Prescott described past experiences of disappointing, losing trips to France as his 'Dunkirks'.

Yesterday Alpinista gave Newmarket's longest-serving trainer his VE Day with a magnificent half-length victory in Paris in Europe's most prestigious race. Prescott described it as 'the best day of my racing life'.

The 20-runner race looked fiendishly competitive and was preceded by a cloudburst which turned Longchamp into a swamp, but it went like clockwork for the well-backed 7-2 favourite under jockey Luke Morris.

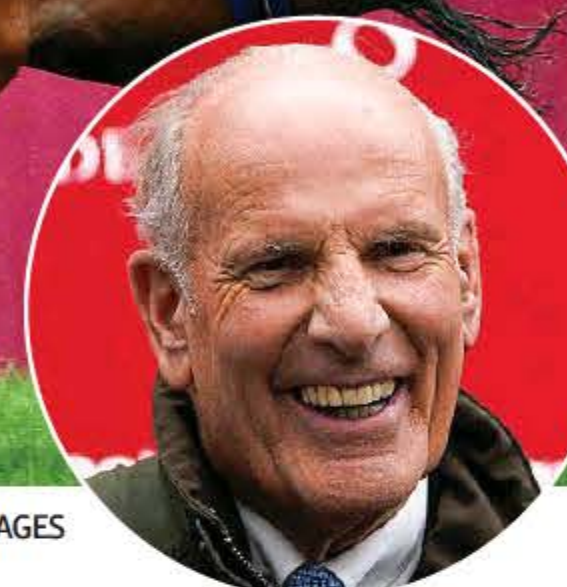
Sitting pretty a furlong out, Alpinista beat Vadeni half a length, with 2021 winner Torquator Tasso a neck further back in third. Alpinista never looking like she would be overhauled.

Alpinista, bred and owned by



Day to remember: Alpinista beats Vadeni and Torquator Tasso to delight Prescott (right)

GETTY IMAGES



Prescott's Arc glory as Alpinista reigns

Winning trainer hails the best day of his life

ARC TOP 3

1: ALPINISTA 7-2

J: Luke Morris
T: Sir Mark Prescott

2: VADENI 9-1

J: Christophe Soumillon
T: Jean-Claude Rouger

3: TORQUATOR TASSO 7-1

J: Frankie Dettori
T: Marcel Weiss

Kirsten Rausing, has now won her last eight races — six at Group One level — in a sequence stretching back to April 2021.

Prescott, 74, has a reputation as one of the sport's shrewdest planners thanks to horses such as Spindrift, who won a then record 13 races as a two-year-old in 1990, and Masafi, who landed seven wins in 18 days in 2004, but Alpinista's effort tops the lot.

Prescott had resisted the temptation to run the mare in last year's Arc and said: 'It is the best day of my racing life. I always thought it was when I got a winner on my first ride when I was 16



when it supposedly had no chance. I thought that was the best 10 minutes of my life, but this is every bit as good.

'Alpinista has improved every single run in the last two years. She has been faultless and the jockey has also been faultless.

'The race went like a dream. If she hadn't been mine, I would have thought she was going to win every inch of the way, but when it is

Pleased as punch:
Jockey Morris celebrates his victory

your own it is a nightmare. It's hard to imagine a better day if you are a racehorse trainer.'

Morris, 33, has now won eight group races but conceded he had to hold back tears after his victory. Riding in his first Arc, Morris said: 'In the last week or so I must have watched the last 25 Arcs and I have never seen any jockey sitting still at the furlong pole. Alpinista is extremely special.'

The early pace was set by Japan's Titleholder, who faded into 11th, four places behind Aidan O'Brien's Luxembourg, who never threatened.

Christophe Soumillon achieving an unpopular win, 48 hours after he had appalled the racing world by elbowing fellow rider Rossa Ryan out of the saddle, almost came off as his mount Vadeni powered into second. The

scrutiny Soumillon has been under and his near-miss seemed to overcome the 10-time French champion jockey and he was in tears afterwards.

Frankie Dettori, chasing a seventh Arc win, reckoned third-placed Torquator Tasso's wide draw in stall 18 had not helped but conceded that the first two were 'too strong'. The consolation prize for Dettori was victory on Ralph Beckett's Kinross in the Prix de la Forêt.

Hollie Doyle also won her first race at the Arc meeting when landing the Prix de l'Abbaye on The Platinum Queen.

But yesterday was all about entertaining storyteller Prescott, one of the keenest students of the sport's history. The trainer, who says he would have liked to be a criminal barrister had he not gone into racing, has a wide range

of interests including boxing, films and bullfighting.

By coincidence Alpinista, who could now go for the Japan Cup in November, became the first five-year-old mare to win the Arc since Corrida in 1937. Corrida is what the Spanish call a bullfight.

Prescott has needed to fend off questions about retirement in recent years and conceded that Alpinista's win might be bad news for long-time assistant William Butler, who will eventually take over his stable.

Prescott said: 'Poor William will view this win with mixed emotions. It will probably keep me tottering on a bit longer.'

Butler will no doubt forgive the boss, who once said he would swim the Channel if he thought he could win the Arc. Last night he probably walked across it to return to his beloved Newmarket.

WORLD OF SPORT

THE Minnesota Vikings won a back-and-forth NFL thriller, beating the New Orleans Saints 28-25 at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. Greg Joseph put the Vikings ahead with his fifth field goal with 24 seconds remaining. Up stepped Saints' Wil Lutz — who had earlier converted from 60 yards — but his 61-yard kick hit both the left upright and the crossbar as time expired.

Leigh back in Super League

LEIGH will return to the Super League after seeing off the brave run of Batley in the Championship Grand Final in front of 7,233 fans at Leigh Sports Village. The Centurions had won all but one of their 27 matches of the regular season and had too much for part-time Batley in a 44-12 victory.

SPORT IN BRIEF

ATHLETICS

LONDON MARATHON Men's Elite: 1 A Kipruto (Ken) 2h 4m 39s. Women's Elite: 1 Y Yehualaw (Eth) 2h 17m 26s.

BASKETBALL

BBL CUP — 1st rnd: Caledonia Gladiators 81 Surrey Scorchers 72. BBL Championship — Cheshire Phoenix 80 Newcastle Eagles 77; Manchester Giants 92 Plymouth City Patriots 79.

CRICKET

SECOND TWENTY20 INTERNATIONAL — Guwahati, India 237-3 (20 overs, S A Yadav 61, K L Rahul 57), South Africa 221-3 (20 overs, D A Miller 106no, Q de Kock 69no). India beat South Africa by 16 runs.

GOLF

ALFRED DUNHILL LINKS CHAMPIONSHIP (St Andrews, Fife) — Final rnd (GB & Ire unless stated): 273 — R Fox (NZ) 66 74 65 68; 274 — A Noren (Swe) 67 69 69 69; C Shinkwin

68 71 68 67; 275 — A Rozner (F) 63 74 69 69; R McIlroy 68 75 66 66; 276 — D Gavins 65 73 67 71; 277 — N Noergaard Moeller (Den) 63 74 69 71; R Mansell 66 68 67 76; T Hutton 68 76 66 67; 278 — T Pulkkanen (Fin) 66 73 69 70; P Uihlein (US) 65 77 68 68; D Whitnall 66 77 67 68.

MOTORCYCLING

MOTOGP GRAND PRIX OF THAILAND (Buriram) — Races: 1 M Oliveira (Por) KTM 41m 44.503s, 2 J Miller (A) Ducati +0.730s, 3 F Bagnaia (It) Ducati +1.968. Standings: 1 F Quartararo (F) Yamaha 219pts, 2 F Bagnaia (It) Ducati 217, 3 A Espargaro (Sp) Aprilia 199. MOT02: 1 T Arbolino (It) Kalex 15m 10.854s, 2 F Salac (Cz) Kalex +0.251s, 3 A Canet (Sp) Kalex +3.112. Standings: 1 A Fernandez (Sp) Kalex 238.5pts, 2 A Ogura (Jpn) Kalex 237, 3 A Canet (Sp) Kalex 185. MOT03: 1 D Foggia (It) Honda 37m 52.331s, 2 A Sasaki (Jpn) Husqvarna +1.524, 3 R Rossi (It) Honda +2.804. Standings: 1 I Guevara (Sp) GasGas 265pts, 2 D Foggia (It) Honda 216, 3 S Garcia (Sp) GasGas 209.

RUGBY LEAGUE

BETFRED CHAMPIONSHIP Play-off Final
LEIGH44 BATLEY.....12

LEAGUE 1 — Play-off Final
SWINTON16 DONCASTER.....10

WHEELCHAIR SUPER LEAGUE GRAND FINAL: Halifax Panthers 52 Leeds Rhinos 48.

RUGBY UNION

GALLAGHER PREMIERSHIP
Saracens.....3 3 0 0 3 122 84 15
Sale.....3 3 0 0 2 94 62 14
Exeter.....4 3 0 1 2 123 111 14
Bristol.....4 3 0 1 2 109 103 14
Harlequins.....4 2 0 2 5 144 133 13
Leicester.....4 2 0 2 3 115 117 11
Northampton.....4 1 0 3 4 110 127 8
Gloucester.....2 1 0 1 3 66 81 6
Worcester.....3 1 0 2 2 87 130 6
Newcastle.....4 1 0 3 2 74 86 5
Bath.....4 0 0 4 3 118 154 3

SATURDAY
LONDON IRISH...47 BATH.....38
London Irish — T: Hassell-Collins 3, Loader 3, Jackson. C: Jackson 6.
Bath — T: Hamer-Webb, Gallagher, Cokanasiga, Annett 2, Francis. C: Bailey 4.
SALE.....28 EXETER.....20
Sale — T: B Curry, Van der Merwe, Carpenter. C: R du Preez 2, P: R du Preez 3. Exeter — T: Cowan-Dickie, S Maund. C: Slade 2, P: Slade 2.
SARACENS.....51 LEICESTER.....18
Saracens — T: Lozowski, Earl, Malins, van Zyl, Daly, McFarland, Maitland. C: Farrell 4, Daly. P: Farrell 2, Leicester — T: Cronin, Steward. C: Burns. P: Burns 2.
YESTERDAY
HARLEQUINS.....35 NORTHAMPTON 29
Harlequins — T: Musk 2, Anyanwu, Northmore, Murley. C: M Smith 5.
Northampton — T: Ludlam, Freeman, Furbank, James. C: Biggar 3. P: Biggar.
UNITED CHAMPIONSHIP
FRIDAY
BLUE BULLS.....28 CONNACHT.....14
CARDIFF RUGBY.....18 LIONS.....31

ULSTER.....13 LEINSTER.....20
SATURDAY
BENNETT.....34 SCARLETS.....23
DRAGONS.....19 SHARKS.....20
MUNSTER.....21 ZEBRE.....5
OSPREYS.....32 GLASGOW.....17
STORMERS.....34 EDINBURGH.....18
RFU CHAMPIONSHIP — FRIDAY: Jersey Reds 21 Cornish Pirates 10, Nottingham 30 Doncaster 15. SATURDAY: Amptill 59 London Scottish 7, Bedford 52 Caldy 29, Coventry 5 Ealing Trailfinders 50, Richmond 19 Hartpury RFC 15.
TENNIS
ATP KOREA OPEN (Seoul, South Korea) — Men's Final: Y Nishioka (Jpn) bt (4) D Shapovalov (Can) 6-4 7-6 (7-5).
ATP SOFIA OPEN (Sofia, Bulgaria) — Men's Final: M Huesler (Swi) bt (5) H Vitus Nodskov Rune (Den) 6-3 6-4 7-6 (10-8).
ATP TEL AVIV WATERGEN OPEN (Tel Aviv, Israel) — Men's Final: (1) N Djokovic (Ser) bt (2) M Cilic (Cro) 6-3 6-4.
WTA TALLINN OPEN (Tallinn, Estonia) — Women's Final: (7) B Krejickova (Cz) bt (1) A Kontaveit (Est) 6-2 6-3.

SPORTS AGENDA

EDITED BY
**MIKE
KEEGAN**

JOTA'S STRONG BUILD-UP PLAY

DEFENDERS may soon struggle to knock Liverpool's Diogo Jota off the ball — with the Portuguese looking to build TWO gyms at his new pad.

The striker has pitched up in the old home of former Everton manager Carlo Ancelotti and wants to add an extension complete with dressing room, swimming pool, steam room, whirlpool bath, cinema room, snug and two work-out areas.

Like the ex-Toffees boss, Jota, 25, is believed to be renting the £2million luxury five-bed pad. There have been no objections to the plans from his neighbours, who include former Liverpool players Steven Gerrard and Robbie Fowler.

FORMER Liverpool Mayor Joe Anderson stuck the boot into his beloved Everton following the Manchester derby, recalling that on a 2018 visit to Finch Farm — the Toffees' training ground — he had watched a video of an 18-year-old Erling Haaland but was told by then chief executive Robert Elstone that at £7m he was too expensive. *Agenda* understands that at one point Everton were told £5m would be enough to prise the striker — who hit a hat-trick for Manchester City against United yesterday — from Norwegian club Molde. The move was not sanctioned because the fee was deemed too much for a player who would have joined the Under 23s.

EFL chairman Rick Parry will this week host a dinner for Tory MPs at the Conservative Party conference. It is likely that the prospect of an independent regulator for football will be among the topics of conversation in Birmingham.

The EFL hope a regulator would order the Premier League to pay considerably more to those further down the pyramid than the current offering. Insiders have disclosed that they are also attempting to get the PFA on board with their cause.

The EFL are yet to receive any proposals from the Premier League regarding redistribution.

CRICKET'S hopes of getting an improbable place in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics will hinge on the two-hour meeting each short-listed sport has with the organisers. It is bound to be a slick presentation, with plenty of funds behind the campaign. However, the sense is that cricket's plans will be stumped quite quickly if baseball (also competing for a place) secures an agreement with the Major League to allow their top stars can compete at the Games.

Good to talk:
Marsch hosted
rugby league
boss Smith
(inset) GETTY IMAGES



MARSCH PICK-UP FOR RHINOS

LEEDS RHINOS coach Rohan Smith was quick to find a shoulder to cry on following the Super League club's Grand Final defeat by St Helens. The Australian headed over to Leeds United's training ground on Friday, where he was entertained by the Premier League side's manager Jesse Marsch.

Smith, who also did some filming for the forthcoming rugby league World Cup, took in Marsch's session before speaking at length to the affable American.

RUGBY LEAGUE is a sport that has often been hampered by those in charge and it would appear the morons running it continue to harm its progress. With just two weeks until the World Cup kick-off, hosts England are yet to attract additional shorts sponsors to Ronseal and are offering the opportunity for £40,000 via third parties and a frantic ring-around. The situation is all the more embarrassing given they have had even longer than

expected to find commercial partners because the tournament was delayed by a year. Insiders say announcements are expected this week. Meanwhile, bungling RFL chief executive Ralph Rimmer was forced to make a grovelling apology last week after being caught mocking the Fiji squad. Incredibly, a video of Rimmer making a crass comment remained on the sport's website 48 hours after the story broke in the national media.

BOLTON'S bid to host a Ryder Cup will this week go before a key Government inquiry. Developers Peel L&P were left stunned when their ambitious £250million plans to turn historic Hulton Park, currently closed to the public, into a Championship golf course were rejected by councillors in the town amid a NIMBY backlash. Revised plans will this week be the subject of a two-day hearing and, should the council's decision be overturned, it would reinforce the aim to host the sport's biggest tournament. Bolton remains one of only two English venues short-listed by UK Sport and Ryder Cup Europe to stage the 2031 version of golf's greatest rivalry. The revised plans include an academy which officials believe will serve as a centre of excellence for young golfers in the North-West.

BRITISH CYCLING have appointed their first external affairs director. With an eye on increasing their influence, they will today announce that Caroline Julian, a former director of policy and public affairs, will become the first person to take the role. Julian will be tasked with leading relations with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, and other Government departments. The keen cyclist previously worked at the ResPublica think tank.

A STATUE to honour a footballer who should have been the first black man to play for England is to be unveiled on Friday.

Following a crowdfunding campaign which sailed past its £100,000 target, Plymouth Argyle legend Jack Leslie will be honoured outside Home Park.

Leslie was picked for England in 1925 but did not subsequently make the squad — with the story being that FA board members pulled the invite when they realised the colour of his skin.

MO FARAH, Eilish McColgan and Brigid Kosgei were not the only withdrawals from this year's London Marathon. Many of those present to report on the event were horrified to find organisers had done away with the traditional bacon rolls and pastries for the press pack. Meanwhile, those who cover Manchester United were left fuming when they booked Tuesday flights to Cyprus for this week's Europa League match on Thursday, only to be told by the club that they had obtained permission from UEFA to stage their pre-match press conference in Manchester — on Tuesday. United's stance is that they had little option given the late arrival of their flight and add that no guarantees were given that the event would be in Cyprus.

WREXHAM'S Hollywood owners Ryan Reynolds (below) and Rob McElhenney may have hoped the episode of their Disney+ series on hooligans at the National League club would have deterred fans from getting involved in trouble. That did not appear to be the case before and after the Welsh side's victory over Oldham on Saturday. The clubs have history and footage of street brawls well away from the stadium, involving dozens of fans from each side, were posted on social media.



THERE is mounting concern among the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic organising committee over the prospect of the 2030 Winter Games ending up in Salt Lake City. The two other cities in contention, Sapporo and Vancouver, have seen their chances dwindle in recent weeks. Sapporo's hopes have been severely dented by a widening Olympic corruption scandal around Tokyo 2020, while Vancouver have seen their odds lengthen owing to strong local opposition and the fact that Toronto is likely to bid for the 2036 Olympics. LA28 officials are concerned that, should Salt Lake City secure the 2030 Winter Games, the difficult task of reaching LA's sponsorship targets in the recession-hit US market will become nigh-on impossible, with their Utah rival fishing from the same pond at the same time.

Rory comes up just short again

ANOTHER strong week for Rory McIlroy and another near miss at St Andrews, where he came up two strokes shy of New Zealand's Ryan Fox at the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship.

In what has become a recurring theme in recent weeks, the Northern Irishman delivered fine golf to reach 13 under, but not quite enough to take the title.

His fourth-placed finish, secured via a closing 66, followed the same result in Italy a fortnight ago and second at the BMW PGA Championship a week prior to that. Coming after his £15million jackpot at the Tour Championships in the US, McIlroy might

GOLF
By RIATH AL-SAMARRAI

feel satisfaction but also a sense of what might have been.

Golf is rarely so simple, and victory from eight shots back of overnight leader Richard Mansell going into yesterday's final round would have been ambitious. He estimated he would have needed a 64 to get close and was tracking in the right direction with six birdies in 13 holes. But his chances ended with a bogey at 17 on the same course where he was third in the Open in July.

McIlroy said: 'I played well again

today. It was a bit of a struggle on the way in. I came up two or three short of my target in the end.'

Mansell was four clear going into the final round but the Englishman wilted with a 76.

Fox shot 68 for his second DP World Tour win of the season. He finished second in the Dunhill team event in 2021 with the late Shane Warne and said: 'To be honest the only person I can think of at the moment is Warne. It's a shame he's not here.'

ENGLAND'S Charley Hull fired eight birdies in a final-round 64 to claim her first LPGA tour victory for six years in the Ascendant tournament in Texas.

DAILY MAIL FOURSOMES

FORMER England cricketers Janet Tedstone and Linda Burnley will complete a fine hat-trick when the Daily Mail Foursomes finals starts today. The Yorkshire stalwarts, from Willow Valley, are gearing up for a third appearance in the showpiece of the world's largest amateur golf tournament when they tee up at Marriott St Pierre. Tedstone, who played 12 Tests and 38 one-day internationals for England, and Burnley, who was a wicketkeeper for Yorkshire and also played in an ODI, were semi-finalists in 2010 and reached the last 16 in 2019. The duo battled through seven knockout rounds to get back to

Yorkshire ladies bowl up for glory

Chepstow and a delighted Burnley, 59, said: 'Our sporting background does help. There is a strong desire to take every game as far as we can.'

Just 16 women's and men's teams have made it to south Wales from an entry of more than 3,000 pairs and Burnley stressed: 'We know what to expect now. The first time we pulled up and saw all the banners, it was like turning up at a pro tournament and it got the butterflies going. The main thing is that we enjoy the atmosphere and hopefully play some good golf as well.'

CARA SLOMAN

No changing Matson's mind as Quins stop the rot in style

 HARLEQUINS	35
 NORTHAMPTON	29

ALEX BYWATER at Twickenham Stoop

NORTHAMPTON spent most of yesterday afternoon at Twickenham Stoop dropping the ball. By the time they'd finally remembered how to string consecutive phases together and eradicated their attacking mistakes, it was too little, too late. Harlequins head coach Tabai Matson reinforced his side's commitment to an entertaining style ahead of this game, but it didn't matter how they played as the Saints gave them more than a helping hand.

The visitors made 11 handling errors in the first half alone and butchered at least four prime try-scoring opportunities. It took until the final quarter for them to click into gear. When they did, Phil Dowson's side came roaring back to score through Tommy Freeman, George Furbank and Tom James. Northampton pushed hard for a winning score at the death. But unlike last Sunday at Exeter, Harlequins held on. 'It's a brutal industry and

winning or losing does have an impact on you as a head coach,' said Matson. 'Whether I'm here or not, this club is convinced exciting rugby can be successful. At times you wonder why you are in this industry.' Northampton director of rugby Dowson said: 'We let them off the hook. We have to be better at turning pressure into points. 'We gave ourselves a mountain to climb. Offloading is a big part of our game but when to throw them is key.'

For all Saints' what-if moments, it was Harlequins who deserved to win this nine-try thriller. 'We are the capital's entertainers,' screamed the stadium announcer before kick-off and his team soon got to work as Jack Musk and Lennox Anyanwu scored two tries in as many minutes. Consecutive Premiership defeats by Saracens and Exeter had given Matson's men pause for thought over their expansive game plan, but their

head coach and star man Marcus Smith are not for turning. Harlequins went to the break 21-10 up after Luke Northmore grabbed their third. Northampton's mistakes were constant. Fraser Dingwall was dispossessed for Anyanwu's try, Alex Mitchell dawdled and was tackled, Emmanuel Iyogun spilled possession and Rory Hutchinson was bundled into touch. Captain Lewis Ludlam did score, but Northampton's misery was summed up by the

usually perfect Dan Biggar dropping the simplest of passes before the break. After Musk's driven-over second, Freeman kept things interesting with his eighth successive Premiership try, equalling Mark Cueto's record. But Saints' Alex Coles spilled the ball almost on the try-line and Ludlam had a score ruled out for double movement. Cadan Murley's acrobatic finish for Quins' fifth meant Saints' late riposte was irrelevant.



Airborne: Murley's brilliant finish seals a home victory REX

Chris Foy
WORLD OF RUGBY

Shame on these charlatan owners Warriors run by chancers and cowboys

WHERE to start? Well, it is safe to say that the Worcester owners' astonishing, disgraceful attempt to pass the buck has confirmed their status as cowboys and charlatans.

The statement issued by Colin Goldring and Jason Whittingham on Friday evening beggared belief. With the club teetering on a cliff edge as a result of their mismanagement, they tried to deflect the blame on to players and supporters. In a masterpiece of passive-aggressive fantasy fiction, the pair claimed squad members had refused to take pay cuts and fans hadn't turned up in sufficient numbers to keep the club afloat.

It was the lowest point yet in a tawdry saga and provoked justifiable outrage. Social media erupted with a mass backlash, but there was dark humour, too. When many critics raged that the owners dare not show their faces in Worcester, others noted that Goldring and Whittingham prefer to stay far away, in Essex.

They have been absent without leave

amid the collapse of the club. Staff haven't seen them. They've barely heard from them, either. Instead of providing leadership at a time of crisis, they have been ducking and diving. All those who care deeply deserve so much better.

Let's cut to the chase: the whole thing appears a hoax. These owners have not had any intention to protect the interests of the Warriors; they've sought to slice and dice it all up for their selfish ends. Within their fictional statement, they dared to make a claim about 'the significant personal funds we put into the club'.

Unless they have kept receipts to prove it, that is news to anyone with knowledge of financial matters at Sixways. The consensus view is that Goldring and Whittingham have squandered

other people's money, whether from the dying Cecil Duckworth or the Covid relief fund managed by Sport England. They are universally regarded as chancers.

Ignore their protestations and pay heed to comments made by Marco Mama, the back-rower who retired last year after serving Worcester with distinction. He wrote: 'The rugby world is now understanding the characters in charge at Worcester Warriors.'

'This is a reality that many within the organisation have been aware of for some time. The lies, manipulation and selfishness have been present throughout. Players and staff have swallowed the shenanigans and allowed them to get away with it.'

Mama went on to add: 'The mistake was allowing people of this nature to step foot in a club built by one man's vision (Duckworth) for the people of Worcester.'

Those words should hit home in English rugby's corridors of power. It is essential that the RFU and Premiership Rugby recognise how they failed to spot trouble under their noses.

Both bodies must establish a far more stringent system to assess owners and their funding plans. The sport cannot afford to be hoodwinked so

easily again. The authorities here should accept the observations made in the *Mail on Sunday* by Simon Gillham, president of French club Brive, who said: 'There are strict financial controls in place here and we have total transparency with the audit police of the league.'

'You can't start a season if you don't have your budget in place. You can't pretend you've got money that you don't have. In France, there's no way you could see a club going under in the middle of the season.'

Here, that pretence has been possible and Worcester look destined to go under. This can't be allowed to happen again. Cowboys and charlatans cannot be permitted to take control of cherished rugby institutions. The likes of Goldring and Whittingham must be exposed and barred.

FOR MORE WORLD OF RUGBY ON MAIL+ SCAN THIS QR CODE



SCAN ME

THE LAST WORD

HERE'S hoping that the Kiwi public flock to the women's World Cup which begins on Saturday in Auckland, and take advantage of a bargain on their doorstep. There are still large numbers of tickets available for the opening day triple-header at Eden Park: France v South Africa followed by England v Fiji, before hosts New Zealand take on Australia, with a Rita Ora concert in the half-time interval. Not a bad line-up for £20 per adult. And there's still plenty of availability for finals day – the 'bronze' game followed by the grand decider – for £15 a head. Not only do the New Zealand team need as much home help as possible to threaten favourites England, the event needs to maintain its positive growth, which would serve as an antidote to some of the gloom in the men's game. The stark fact for Kiwi oval-ball enthusiasts is the male global showpiece is unlikely to return to their shores as it has outgrown New Zealand's limited infrastructure, so the public must embrace the women's tussle for supremacy.

Disgraceful: owners Whittingham (left) and Goldring



Lewis's sorry mess!

Hamilton apology after he blows it... and Max blunders too



JONATHAN McEVOY
in Singapore

LEWIS HAMILTON made a mid-race apology to his team for one of two uncharacteristic errors that blighted his Singapore Grand Prix, itself a procession lit up by the occasional spark.

In terms of the title mathematics, it left Max Verstappen, who finished seventh, 104 points ahead of his nearest nominal pursuer Charles Leclerc, runner-up on the night, with four races remaining, starting in Suzuka, Japan, on Sunday. Verstappen's team-mate Sergio Perez, the excellent race winner, lies 106 back.

So Max, the performer of the season by head and shoulders, will win his second title if he triumphs at the weekend and notches the fastest lap, no matter what the rest can achieve in his wake.

Actually, neither of the world's most famous drivers, Hamilton nor Verstappen, had a dream night's work at Marina Bay. The Briton started third, slipped down to fourth off the line, and then twice fell off the racing line and finished ninth.

On the first of those occasions, 33 laps into the intended 61 laps before the two-hour guillotine ended proceedings a few miles early, he smashed into the wall after carrying too much speed as he harried Ferrari's Carlos Sainz for third.

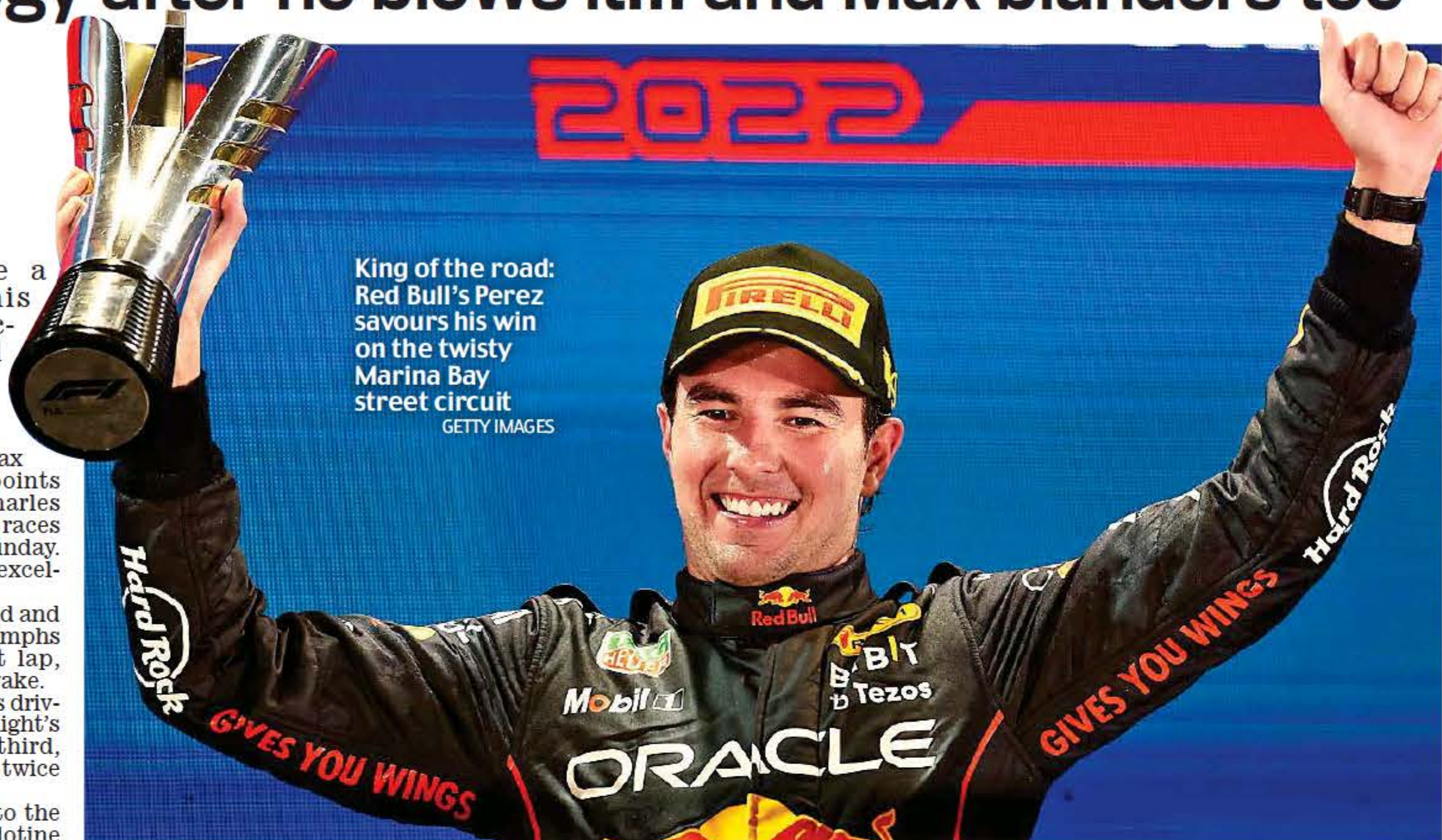
He broke the advertising hoarding, reversed out, fell down a place and limped to the pits, for his crew to lick collective wounds. 'I'm so sorry about that guys. I f**** it up big time,' said the seven-time world champion.

A mea culpa is not unheard of from Lewis's lips but it does run counter to the perceived usual direction of finger-pointing.

That mistake pushed him down a place to fifth and then into the pits for a new front wing after an hour's tedium stuck on Sainz's tale on a tight street track rendered slippery by rain that had fallen earlier. It was bouncing ankle high off the tarmac and the race was delayed an hour and five minutes, which was a little longer than excitement demanded.

Hamilton's second off-line excursion occurred in the final throes of the humid night as Verstappen, whose travails we shall return to, was close behind him. The Briton was attempting to pass Aston Martin's Sebastian Vettel, but missed the corner and let Verstappen through.

In truth, it was a miserable day for Mercedes. Less said about George Russell the better. One sentence on his gloom will suffice: he endured probably his worst



King of the road:
Red Bull's Perez
savours his win
on the twisty
Marina Bay
street circuit
GETTY IMAGES

RESULTS: SINGAPORE 185.53 miles 59 LAPS

1 SERGIO PEREZ (Mex)
Red Bull 2hr 2min 20.238sec

2 CHARLES LECLERC (Mon)
Ferrari +2.595s

3 CARLOS SAINZ (Spa)
Ferrari +10.305s

4 L Norris (GB) McLaren +21.133s
5 D Ricciardo (Aus) McLaren +53.282s
6 L Stroll (Can) Aston Martin +56.330s
7 M Verstappen (Ned) Red Bull +58.825s
8 S Vettel (Ger) Aston Martin +60.032s
9 L Hamilton (GB) Mercedes +61.515s
10 P Gasly (Fra) AlphaTauri +69.576s
11 V Bottas (Fin) Alfa Romeo +88.844s
12 K Magnussen (Den) Haas +92.610s
13 M Schumacher (Ger) Haas +1lap

14 G Russell (GB) Mercedes +2 laps
DID NOT FINISH
Y Tsunoda (Jpn) AlphaTauri 34 laps
E Ocon (Fra) Alpine 26 laps
A Albon (Tha) Williams 25 laps
F Alonso (Spa) Alpine 20 laps
N Latifi (Can) Williams 7 laps
G Zhou (Chn) Alfa Romeo 6 laps

Fastest lap: **George Russell on lap 54: 1min 46.458s**

DRIVERS' STANDINGS

1 Verstappen	341	6 Hamilton	170
2 Leclerc	237	7 Norris	100
3 Perez	235	8 Ocon	66
4 Russell	203	9 Alonso	59
5 Sainz	202	10 Bottas	46

CONSTRUCTORS' STANDINGS

1 Red Bull	576	6 Alfa Romeo	52
2 Ferrari	439	7 Aston Martin	37
3 Mercedes	373	8 Haas	34
4 McLaren	129	9 AlphaTauri	34
5 Alpine	125	10 Williams	6

weekend with the team in qualifying 11th, starting in the pit lane after engine changes, before clipping Alfa Romeo's Valtteri Bottas and Haas's Mick Schumacher as he struggled for his usual sure-footedness to finish 14th and last of the evening's survivors. Just a little hurrah for Russell setting the fastest lap as events closed.

As for Verstappen, who needed to win and Leclerc and Perez to falter badly to leave Singapore

with the trophy for a second year, his ill-fate was all but sealed on Saturday night, when he was told to abort his final qualifying lap in order to meet the requirement to have a litre of fuel on board for scrutineering.

He was flying at the time, pole at his mercy. Disbelieving, he turned the air blue and left the track ASAP. No debrief. Too angry for that. As he reflected of his 'really terrible' weekend: 'It

started with yesterday's big f*** up. I wasn't making a statement by leaving the track when I did. It was how I felt. I just wouldn't have been much use.'

Verstappen slipped from eighth to 12th after his ant-stall inexplicably kicked in on the grid. Having climbed to fifth by lap 40, by when the field had finally switched from intermediate tyres to slicks on a slow-drying surface, he saw ahead of him McLaren's Lando Norris (who went on to finish fourth, a place behind Sainz). Verstappen went charging adventurously into Turn 7 and ended off the road in a rubbery plume of white smoke.

He said: 'I completely bottomed out as soon as I hit the brakes. I went alongside Lando and it is a little bumpy off line. I massively locked up both wheels and had a flat spot, so I had to box again.'

As for Perez, he produced an unremitting display from the moment he beat pole-sitter Leclerc to the first corner. He survived a stewards' inquiry for twice falling more than 10 lengths behind the safety car, the five-second penalty meted out at 1.45am local time not enough to deny him a deserved triumph.

Verstappen: Our silly rivals should shut it

MAX VERSTAPPEN has told other teams to 'keep their mouths shut' rather than accuse Red Bull of breaching Formula One's budget cap.

The FIA are not due to announce whether any team have exceeded the £114million spending limit until Wednesday, but Mercedes and Ferrari have implied that their bitter rivals have done so. Red Bull team principal Christian Horner has threatened to start legal proceedings over the accusations, insisting the remarks are 'defamatory' and 'inaccurate'. He said last night he was 'not nervous at all' as he awaits the results of the FIA's financial auditing.

Verstappen was asked if he was content the allegations would not present a problem. 'With what I hear from the team, yes,' he said. 'Other teams talk about it while they have no information so I find that a bit silly. Just keep your mouths shut.'

Any team found in breach of the cost cap could face punishments ranging from a reprimand to the docking of drivers' and constructors' points.

But Horner added: 'We will consider all our options. It was totally unacceptable to make an unfounded allegation and on the basis of what? Where is this source of information? It was a confidential submission. I have no idea of the compliance of any of our rivals. 'We need to complete the entire process. These are brand-new regulations which are highly complicated. And, of course, there are different interpretations. So it will be interesting to see how this is applied.'

JONATHAN McEVOY



Running out of road: Hamilton hits the barriers before reversing out to finish ninth

TWITTER



Malan sends England to Oz on the up

Series win fuels dream of glory Down Under

ENGLAND jet off to Australia today after emphatically proving themselves tournament-ready in the winner-takes-all finale to their epic Pakistan tour.

Talk within the tourists' camp in the build-up to the seventh and final match had been of the need to test themselves in knockout-style scenarios.

And they met that test with nous and nerve to complete a 4-3 series win, as Dawid Malan's unbeaten 78 plus an innings of 46 not out from Harry Brook helped set a 210-run target and challenged Pakistan to complete what would have been their record chase.

Any concerns England would be travelling to the World Cup without another tick in the win column were then dispelled inside the first couple of overs as Pakistan's batting bankers Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan fell to the new ball.

'That was very pleasing,' said England captain Moeen Ali, following the 67-run win. 'We'll look back and think if we were really on it, we would have won this series 6-1, but we're really happy that we've won it and go to Australia in a good position.'

'If you look at the last two games, both must-win, going into a World Cup that's really important — the pressure to perform



RICHARD GIBSON
in Lahore

was huge. I don't think we're the favourites for the World Cup. If I'm honest, I don't feel that at all. But I know we're a very dangerous team to play and a lot of teams will fear playing us.'

Malan had endured an underwhelming tour, but made the most of a couple of lives and put his part in the run out of Phil Salt behind him to render the loss of the toss insignificant.

The left-hander had come to the crease in the fifth over when England's rollicking start was checked by Mohammad Hasnain pinning Alex Hales leg before.

Within two balls, England were 39 for two after a moment of high farce accounted for Salt, Pakistan's slayer in another one-sided result 48 hours earlier.

This time Salt had taken 20 off a dozen deliveries when he bolted down the pitch in response to the ball squeezing off Malan's pads into open space behind square.

It left both players at the same end and Salt with a forlorn task of beating Shadab Khan's throw. No more than a lob, what it lacked in power it made up for in accuracy.

As is their wont, however, England attacked from their low ebb, Malan and Ben Duckett countering with a stand of 62 in five overs,

the latter once again showing his disdain for Pakistan's spin before departing to a moment of brilliance by Rizwan.

If Salt's run out had been comical, this one was clinical as Rizwan clawed an inside edge that bounced down the leg-side and broke the wicket with a swish of his arm, Duckett's momentum down the pitch doing for him.

Malan was put down on 29 at cover by Babar off Iftikhar Ahmed's round-arm spin soon afterwards and again on 62 when Mohammad Wasim floored a steeper at midwicket at the death.

And he made the Pakistanis pay in tandem with his Yorkshire colleague Brook, with whom he shared an unbroken century stand.

Both were struck blows to their person by the recalled Hasnain during a brief Pakistan mid-innings riposte that saw only eight taken from two overs.

But Pakistan's lacklustre display in the field proved their downfall. Babar dropped his second catch of the night, saving Brook, who drove and clipped four sixes while Malan went through the gears to cruise beyond a 34-ball 50.

England had resisted the temptation to re-deploy Mark Wood,

saving his express pace for Australian pitches, and for once they didn't miss his potency in the power play.

From the fifth ball of the innings, Babar hit Chris Woakes straight to short extra cover and Pakistan were five for two when Rizwan had his off stump pinned back by Reece Topley.

There was no coming back from that, although as has been the case throughout the series, it did not stop a home crowd seeking a miracle, chanting for six specialist Asif Ali. Those chants increased in volume in line with a spiralling run rate that was in the high teens when he came to the crease at 86 for four and stood at over 20 when he hooked Woakes — who finished with three for 26 in just his second game back from a six-month injury lay-off — straight to deep square leg.

There was still more than a quarter of the innings remaining but another full house had witnessed enough — as hundreds streamed for the exits — and England turned their thoughts to another challenge Down Under.

140
DAWID MALAN scored 140 runs in the three T20Is in Lahore as he found form towards the end of the series — he'd scored just 34 in his three innings in Karachi.



Brook and Wood boost World Cup bid as

AFTER sealing the series win, England head to the T20 World Cup with things becoming clearer in terms of fitness and form. Here, Sportsmail addresses the main issues that have developed during this tour of Pakistan...

JOS BUTTLER SAID HE WOULD PLAY TWO MATCHES AT BEST, THEN DIDN'T APPEAR AT ALL. SHOULD WE BE WORRIED?

NO. It has simply been a case of the captain erring on the side of caution as he recovers from a calf injury. Buttler has batted and kept wicket without any obvious discomfort and it is putting the muscle under stress in the process of sprinting, twisting and turning under match-pressure scrutiny that he and the medical staff are wary of. Hence,

they have worked on the theory that it's better to be picked a game too late than one too early and held him back until the first of three matches against Australia.

SO, BUTTLER WILL OPEN WITH ALEX HALES WHEN ENGLAND BEGIN THEIR WORLD CUP AGAINST AFGHANISTAN?

THAT was the plan after Jonny Bairstow's freakish injury opened the door for an international return that Hales celebrated with a 50 on opening night. And given the consistency of selection across England teams these days, that remains the likeliest



scenario. But Phil Salt outperformed him overall — striking at 157 and producing the most destructive innings of the series, the unbeaten 88 off 41 balls that set up last night's decider. Both have plenty of experience of Australian conditions at the Big Bash too. Hales' fielding needs attention — he dropped three catches, all of which should really have been taken.

BUT HARRY BROOK HAS NAILED DOWN HIS PLACE?

ABSOLUTELY. The Yorkshireman appears to have made the No5 spot his own, coming in after Dawid Malan and the returning Ben Stokes and before two

finishers in Moeen Ali and Liam Livingstone. England failed to make the most of Brook's hot form in the summer but should do so now. He has shown not only a 360° game but the ability to second guess bowlers' plans and manipulate the field.

HOW IS THE BOWLING ATTACK SHAPING UP?

THE return of Mark Wood tearing in and hitting the mid-90s in terms of pace was arguably the most pleasing sight of the trip and his inclusion provides the point of difference. Figures of 8-0-44-6 did not flatter him. He might not be risked in every game at the World Cup but they will want him for the big ones. That will mean rotating players, as England have done here. Although they got away with it on occasion, David Willey and Sam Curran are two samey to play in the same XI. Chris Jordan and

Hotshot:
Brook goes
big on his
way to 46
not out
GETTY IMAGES



SCOREBOARD SEVENTH TWENTY20 INTERNATIONAL

Pakistan v England

LAHORE: Pakistan won the toss. England beat Pakistan by 67 runs. England win the series 4-3.

ENGLAND

†P Salt run out	20	(12b)
A Hales lbw b Hasnain	18	(13b)
D Malan not out	78	(47b)
B Duckett run out	30	(19b)
H Brook not out	46	(29b)
Extras (b4, lb3, w10)	17	

Total (3 wks 20 overs) 209
Fall: 39, 39, 101.

Bowling: Mohammad Nawaz 1-0-12-0, Mohammad Hasnain 4-0-32-1, Mohammad Wasim 4-0-61-0, Haris Rauf 4-0-24-0, Shadab Khan 3-0-39-0, Iftikhar Ahmed 4-0-34-0.

PAKISTAN

†Mohammad Rizwan b Topley	1	(4b)
*Babar Azam c Brook b Woakes	4	(4b)
Shan Masood c Rashid b Woakes	56	(43b)
Iftikhar Ahmed c Salt b Willey	19	(16b)
Khushdil Shah c Salt b Rashid	27	(25b)
Asif Ali c Topley b Woakes	7	(9b)
Mohammad Nawaz c Woakes b Curran	9	(9b)
Mohammad Wasim b Willey	5	(5b)
Haris Rauf not out	1	(1b)
Mohammad Hasnain not out	5	(4b)
Extras (lb3, w5)	8	

Total (8 wks 20 overs) 142
Fall: 5, 5, 33, 86, 99, 125, 135, 135.

Bowling: Woakes 4-0-26-3, Topley 4-0-34-1, Willey 4-0-22-2, Rashid 4-0-25-1, Ali 1-0-5-0, S Curran 3-0-27-1.



Trophy time: Sam Curran, Will Jacks and Reece Topley

HOW THEY EDGED THE SERIES 4-3...

1st T20, Karachi: Eng by 6 wks

2nd T20, Karachi: Pak by 10 wks

3rd T20, Karachi: Eng by 63 runs

4th T20, Karachi: Pak by 3 runs

5th T20, Lahore: Pak by 6 runs

6th T20, Lahore: Eng by 8 wks

7th T20, Lahore: Eng by 67 runs

601 MOHAMMAD RIZWAN and Babar Azam scored 601 runs in the series.

The rest of their side made 489.
238 HARRY BROOK was England's top man — his 238 runs came at 79 and a strike rate of 163.

Yehualaw wins after tripping on a speed bump!

By RIATH AL-SAMARRAI

Athletics Correspondent on The Mail

AFTER the fall came the rise. Not many athletes can climb up from a face-plant to win the London Marathon but Yalemzerf Yehualaw is rapidly emerging as a runner who does not conform to the usual standards.

The Ethiopian's victory across two hours, 17 minutes and 26 seconds on Sunday was staggering, both in her revival from tumbling over a speed bump six miles from the tape, and also in what it heralded, with the 23-year-old becoming the youngest winner of this race in history.

That it was only her second ever marathon, six months after winning her first in Hamburg, would indicate she has a better shot than most in her stated ambition of one day breaking the 2:14.04 world record of Brigid Kosgei.

'I had a dream to be a professional athlete and to run in these races,' she said. 'I am so happy to win on my first time in London. London people were shouting a lot and it inspired me.'

'I am thinking of the longer plan I have that I would like to break the world record.' Kosgei, the dominant Kenyan athlete, was among the many leading names who withdrew injured ahead of this race, which cleared a sizeable hurdle for Yehualaw.

However, another presented itself after 20 miles, when she lost around 25metres on the leading group of eight when she fell hard over the speed bump.

'I hurt my hip and knee,' she said, before a member of her team confirmed she bumped her head as well. Despite that setback, she reeled the pack in and by the 24th mile it had become a two-woman showdown with the defending champion Joyciline Jepkosgei.

That was when Yehualaw ran a



Glory: Yehualaw wins after falling with just six miles left GETTY IMAGES

storming mile of four minutes and 43 seconds, the quickest ever recorded in a women's marathon, and left the Kenyan in her wake. Her time was the third fastest in the 42 years of the race.

The men's event was won by Amos Kipruto in 2:04.39 after breaking three miles from home. The leading British runner was ninth-placed Weynay Ghebresilasie, who ran for Eritrea at London 2012 before seeking asylum here.

The 28-year-old said: 'Before the 2012 Olympics my country was not in a good situation, that's why I stayed in Britain. I was in Sunderland and then moved to Birmingham and I'm in Scotland now.'

'My plan is to run at the World Championships and the Paris Olympics for Great Britain.'

Meanwhile, Eilish McColgan, who pulled out because of blood sugar issues that are exacerbated over the marathon distance, set a new European 10km road with 30:18 at the Great Scottish Run.

Keane: It's embarrassing

From Back Page

players' point of view, they really should be embarrassed. You can't go in at half-time in a derby 4-0 down, it's hugely embarrassing.

'As brilliant as City were, United were desperate. Particularly in midfield. Defensively all over the shop. Even the consolations, they scored a few goals but the game was over; City had switched off.' Ten Hag, who also oversaw a humbling 4-0 defeat at Brentford in the second game of the season, claimed his squad did not have the correct mindset to disrupt City in a stinging rebuke of the players.

The Dutchman added that they had let down the club's fans, hundreds of whom left at half-time. 'It's quite simple, it's a lack of belief,' he said. 'When you don't believe on the pitch then you can't win games. That is unacceptable.'

'We get undisciplined at following rules and you get hammered, that's happened today. For the first goal we won the ball and could have created a great chance but instead we

gave it away easily and then it was like a pack of cards. I criticised them, I told them. 'For me it was a surprise. We were not on the front foot, we were not brave on the ball and there were spaces to play. 'All the credit to City, but it's nothing to do with City, our performance was not good. In this moment I can't think about positives. We let our fans down, we let ourselves down and we are hugely disappointed.' Ten Hag also claimed he did not introduce Cristiano Ronaldo from the bench out of respect for the veteran. 'I wouldn't bring him in because of the respect for Cristiano, for his big career, and the other thing was the advantage I could bring on Martial. He needs the minutes.'

VERDICT
TURN TO
CENTRE PAGES

Salt piles on pressure

Chris Woakes appear to be another head-to-head in selection terms while Reece Topley's height will make him a handful with the new ball on Australian pitches. Topley is also a death-overs option.

ADIL RASHID IS ONE OF THE FIRST NAMES ON THE TEAM SHEET. SHOULD HE BE?

YES. The Yorkshire leg-spinner (right) has been an essential component of this team, providing control and wicket-taking threat through the middle of an innings. However, England will need him to rediscover his top form after a wicketless run of three matches versus Pakistan — the longest of his Twenty20 international career.

RICHARD GIBSON



ENGLAND'S STRONGEST WORLD CUP TEAM

BUTTLER
(capt, wkt)

HALES

MALAN

STOKES

BROOK

MOEEN
LIVINGSTONE

JORDAN

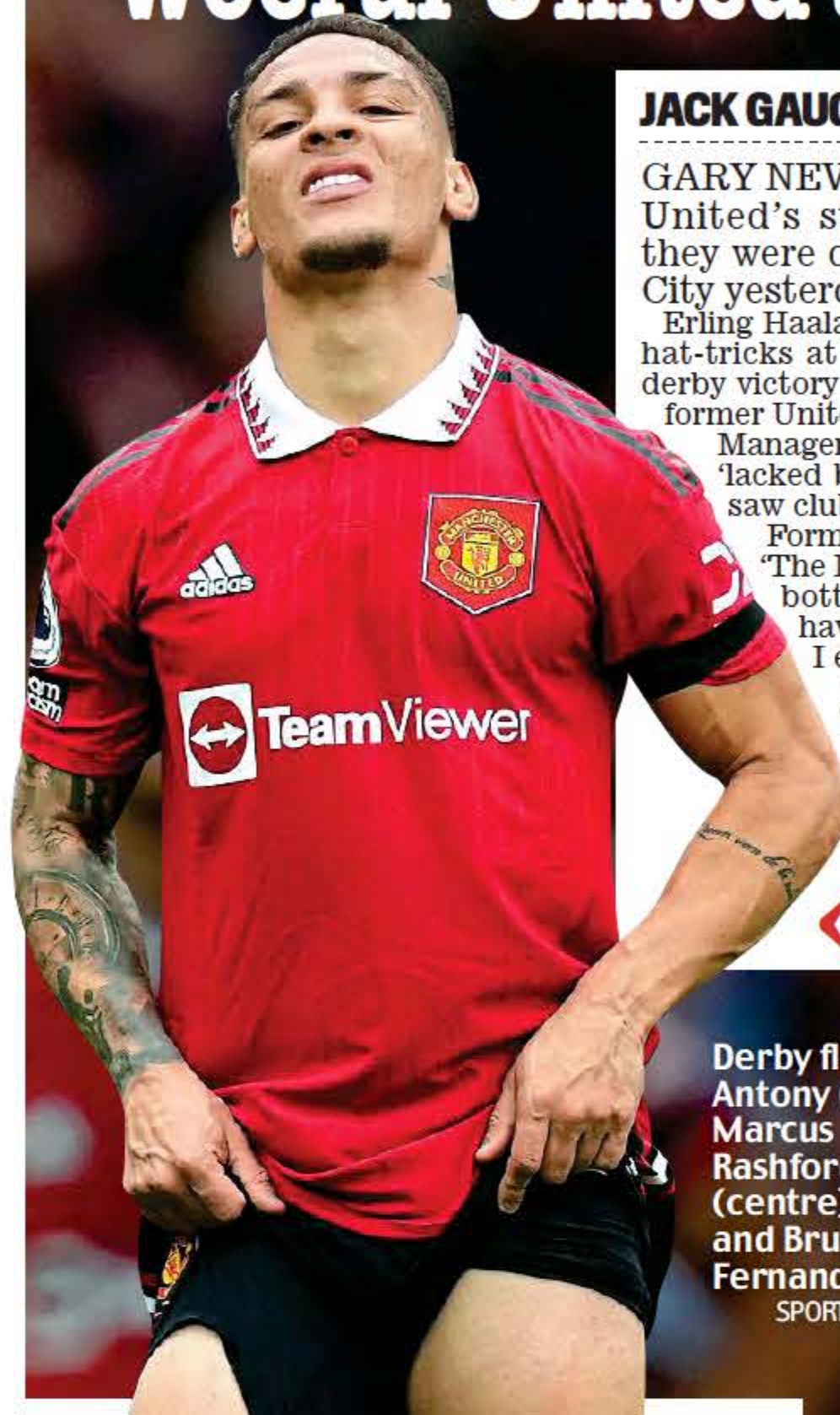
RASHID

WOOD

TOPLEY

BOTTLE JOBS

Gary Neville leads the stinging criticism of woeful United after City hit them for six



JACK GAUGHAN at the Etihad

GARY NEVILLE accused Manchester United's stars of 'bottling it' after they were demolished by Manchester City yesterday.

Erling Haaland and Phil Foden both scored hat-tricks at the Etihad in a thumping 6-3 derby victory described as 'embarrassing' by former United captain Roy Keane.

Manager Erik ten Hag admitted his team 'lacked belief' on a chastening day that saw club legends round on the team.

Former United defender Neville said: "The Manchester United players have bottled it, there is no doubt. They have not handled this derby at all. I expected so much more."

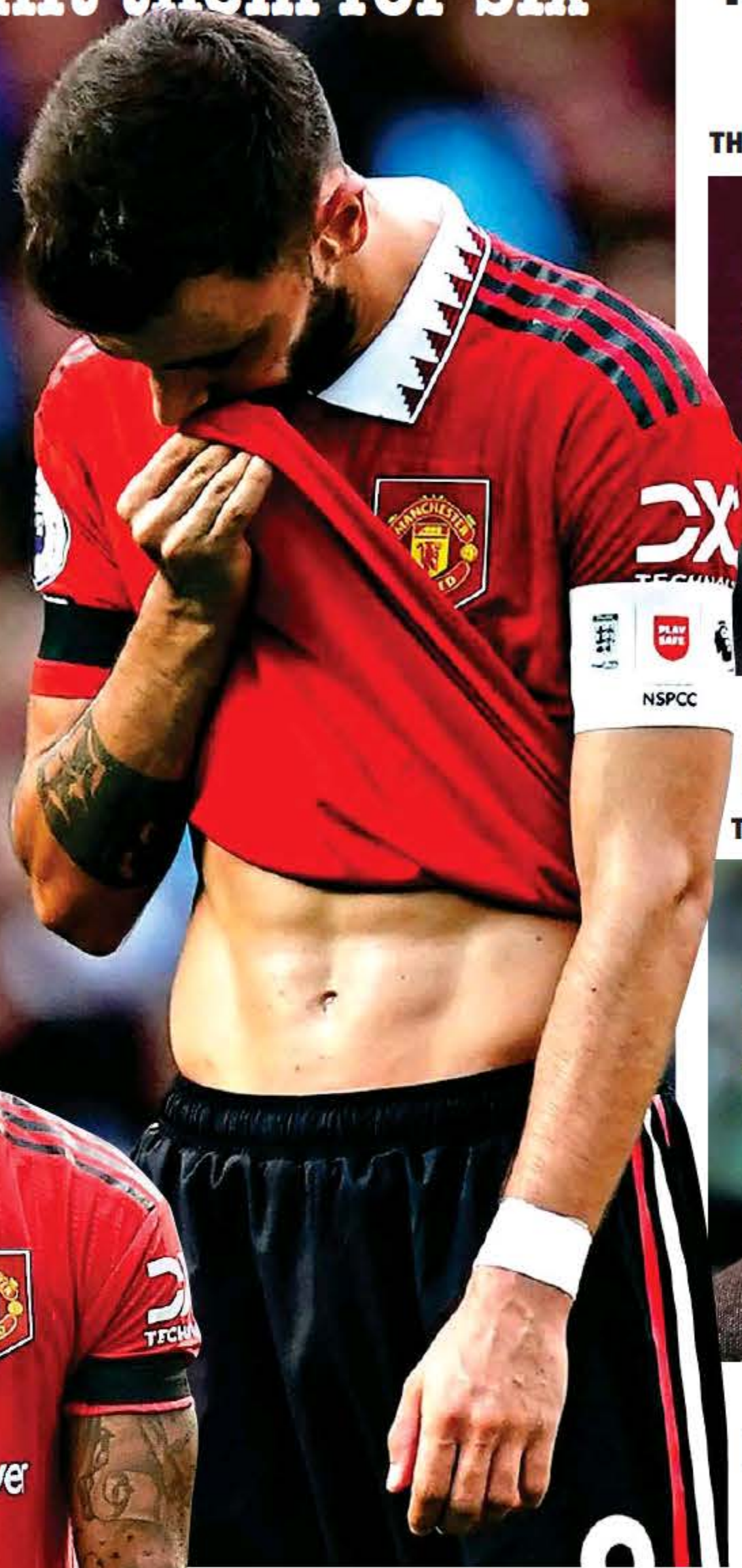
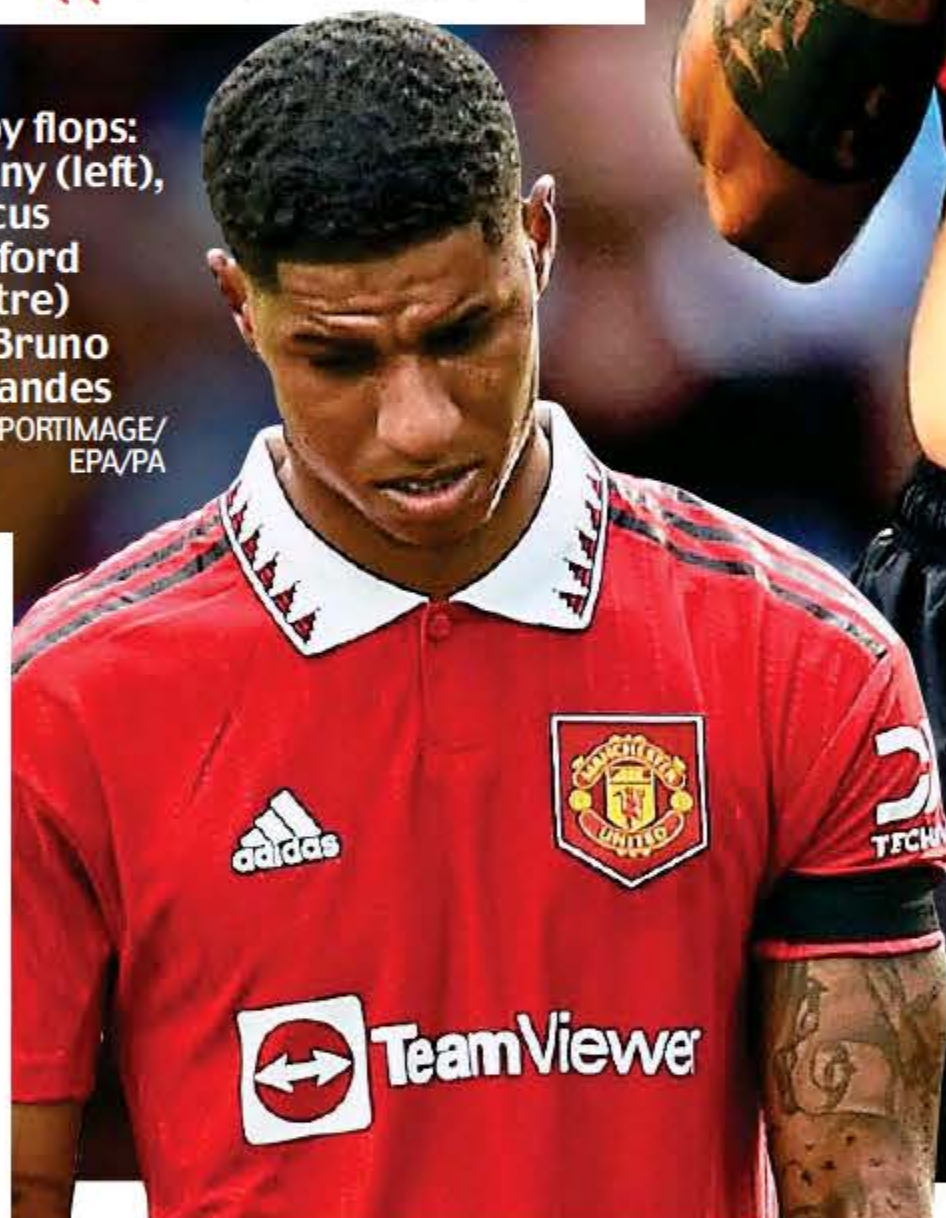
"There has been no composure. They have never settled. They have been anxious and nervous on the ball and pulled apart by an outstanding team."

Keane was left seething by the display. He said: 'From the

TURN TO PAGE 71, COL 3

Derby flops:
Antony (left),
Marcus
Rashford
(centre)
and Bruno
Fernandes

SPORTIMAGE/
EPA/PA



**DON'T MISS
YOUR ULTIMATE
FOOTBALL
MAGAZINE**

THE VERDICT: CENTRE PAGES



**WOLVES AXE
FALLS ON LAGE**

THE VERDICT: CENTRE PAGES



**ANOTHER
HORROR SHOW
FOR LEWIS**

FORMULA ONE: PAGE 69

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ACROSS

- 1 Engage in conflict (4,5)
- 6 Cooker top (3)
- 8 U.S. state (6)
- 9 Most suitable (5)
- 10 Film genre (6)
- 11 Wicked or sinful (7)
- 13 Witty reply (7)
- 16 Means of communication (6)
- 18 Following in time (5)

DOWN

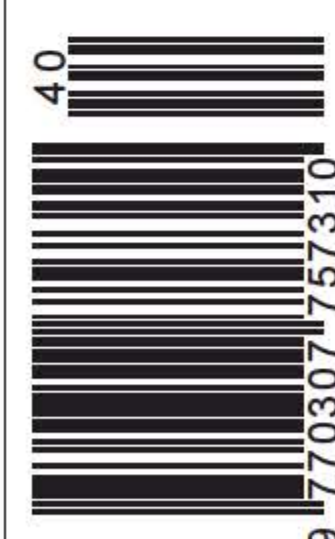
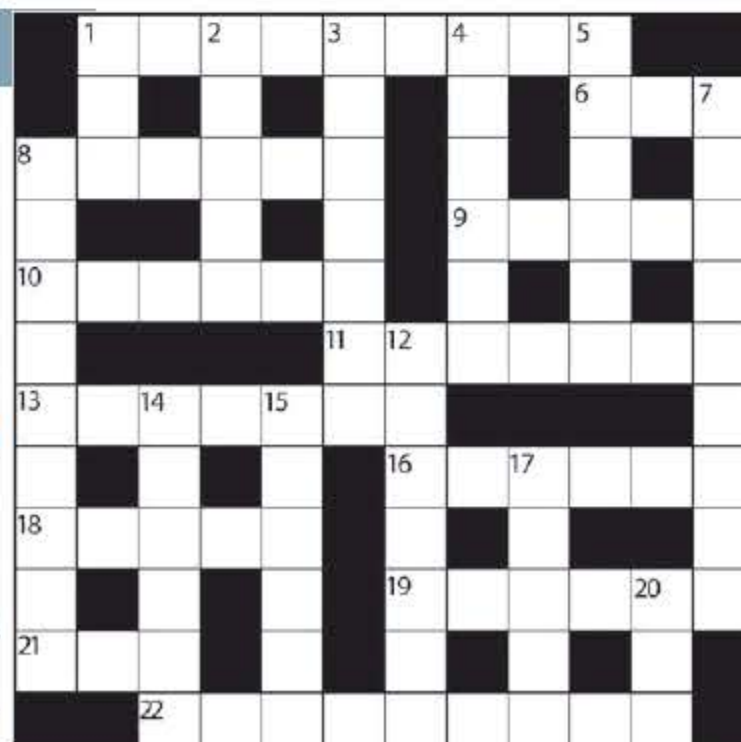
- 19 Identity parade (4-2)
- 21 The self (3)
- 22 Revolving tray for food (4,5)
- 1 Meadow (3)
- 2 Car lock (5)
- 3 Short back and sides, say (7)
- 4 Ordinary seaman (6)

ACROSS

- 5 Clever and perceptive (6)
- 7 Failed dive into water (5,4)
- 8 Pass winter in a torpid state (9)
- 12 Snuggles (7)
- 14 Car fuel (6)
- 15 Squirt or spray (6)
- 17 Percussion instruments (5)
- 20 Vase (3)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTION (NO 9,283) - ACROSS: 1 Black Death. 6 Hot air. 7 Stand. 9 Dental. 10 Ada. 11 Grid. 14 Also. 15 Ago. 16 Artist. 17 Khaki. 18 Admits. 20 Arched over. DOWN: 1 Boo. 2 Amazed. 3 Karate. 4 Easily. 5 To a fault. 6 Hang back. 8 Diamonds. 9 Dinosaur. 12 Parish. 13 Strand. 14 Asimov. 19 Tor.

SOLUTION TOMORROW



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**MAN CITY...6
MAN UTD....3**

THE BIG NAMES, BOLD OPINIONS **VERDICT**

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

SCREWFIX

Hat-trick heroes



Having a ball: Foden and Haaland fight for the match ball before Foden finds there is one apiece GETTY IMAGES

**Haaland and Foden
hit trebles – and get
a ball each – as City
tear United apart**

REPORTS, REACTION AND ANALYSIS: PAGES 2-5



SAVE MONEY ON YOUR BILLS & IMPROVE YOUR ENERGY EFFICIENCY

SCREWFIX
THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS

THE PREMIER LEAGUE IN SIXTY SECONDS

By AADAM PATEL

IT'S DOUBLE TREBLE FOR CITY'S STARS

■ ERLING HAALAND and Phil Foden both scored hat-tricks for Man City against Man Utd. It's just the third time a team has had two hat-tricks in the same Premier League match:

May 2003: **ARSENAL 6** Soton 1
Hat-tricks: Robert Pires and Jermaine Pennant

Nov 2019: **Soton 0 LEICESTER 9**
Hat-tricks: Ayoze Perez and Jamie Vardy

Oct 2022: **MAN CITY 6** Man Utd 3
Hat-tricks: ERLING HAALAND and PHIL FODEN

HAA-TRICK!

■ HAALAND has scored three Premier League hat-tricks already — as many as Cristiano Ronaldo, Frank Lampard and Jamie Vardy... and he's only played eight games! Here are the five fastest players to reach three Premier League trebles:

	GAMES
ERLING HAALAND	8
Michael Owen	48
Ruud van Nistelrooy	59
Fernando Torres	64
Andy Cole	65

3 HAALAND'S three hat-tricks (in 56 days since his league debut) are as many as there were in the entire 2006-07 Premier League season.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

5 SOUTHAMPTON set a new Premier League record against Everton as five players with double-barrelled surnames turned out. Can you name them? (answers below)

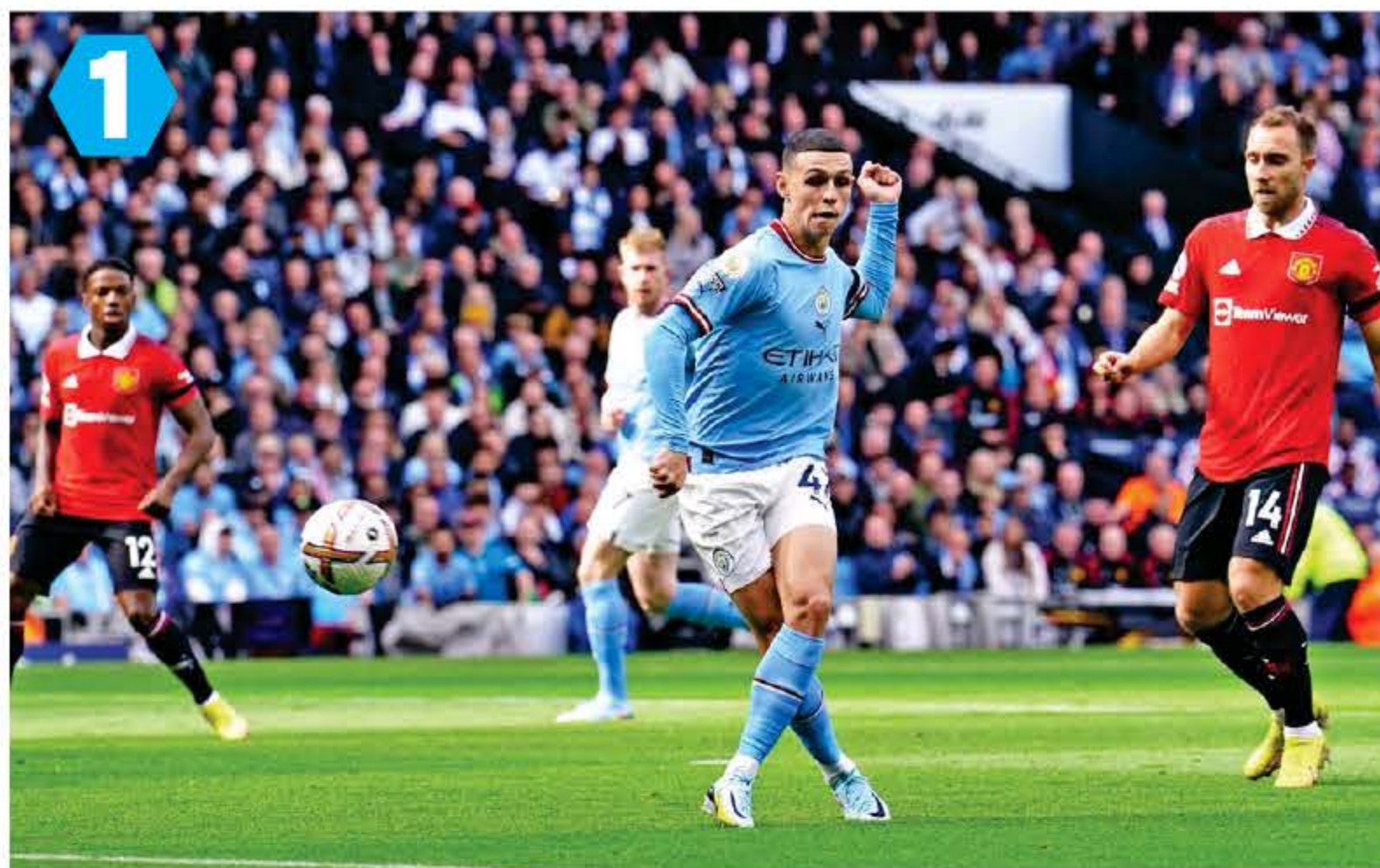
AWAY GOALS RULE!

100 HARRY KANE became the first player to score a century of away goals in the Premier League with his penalty at Arsenal on Saturday:

	AWAY GOALS
H KANE	100 in 147 games 0.68 per game
W Rooney	94 in 243 games 0.39 per game
A Shearer	87 in 219 games 0.40 per game
F Lampard	85 in 305 games 0.28 per game
Andy Cole	83 in 206 games 0.40 per game

44 KANE also became the leading goalscorer in London derbies in the Premier League, going past Arsenal legend Thierry Henry with his 44th goal.

Answers: James Ward-Prowse, Ainsley Maitland-Niles, Kyle Walker-Peters, Dule Callea-Car and Arnel Bella-Kochap.



1 First blood: Foden sweeps home at the near post from Bernardo's cross



2 Too strong: Haaland rises highest to head a corner



4 Net gain: Foden bursts forward to score from a Haaland assist



5 Unstoppable: Haaland rattles in his third goal from

City so superior

Hat-tricks for Haaland and Foden as

MARTIN SAMUEL

Chief Sports Writer at the Etihad Stadium

MAN CITY

Foden 8, 44, 73
Haaland 34, 37, 64

MAN UTD

Antony 56
Martial 84, 90 (pen)

separate divisions. As for Haaland and Foden, having entered the second half on two apiece, both got a third to confirm the gulf between these so-called rivals. Double hat-tricks are rare, just two previously in Premier League history. Jermaine Pennant and Robert Pires in a 6-1 victory for Arsenal over Southampton in May 2003, and Jamie Vardy and Ayoze Perez when Leicester won 9-0 at Southampton in October 2019.

Haaland and Foden are the first to deliver such punishment to a team that isn't Southampton. For Haaland, it is his third straight Premier League hat-trick at home

— a feat never before performed in the modern era. Michael Owen was a truly prolific goalscorer, a teenage sensation. It took him 48 games to score three hat-tricks. Haaland is there in eight.

And he was first to his three here, too, his crowning goal coming after 64 minutes, following a quite lovely build up that involved the magnificent Kevin De Bruyne, Jack Grealish, De Bruyne again, before Sergio Perez — on for the injured Kyle Walker in another admirably front-foot move from Pep Guardiola — crossed for Haaland to finish first time, almost bursting the net in the process.

Eight minutes later, Haaland threaded the ball through to Foden who sprung a United offside trap that appeared to have been abandoned at the planning stage, before finishing smartly. At the end, all that was troubling City was how to share a match ball between two players. In the end, a second one was produced and everyone left happy.

Not just the players, either. There were times during the first half — and it was all about those opening 45 minutes — when it was truly hard to keep from laughing. Not at United, but at the sheer audacity and exhilarating thrill of City in full flow. This was an incredible win for

Guardiola, and it is hard to imagine any coach attempting a strategy so positive when faced with the loss of Rodri, his first-choice defensive midfielder. To then see Guardiola's gameplan not just work but tear the opposition apart was a euphoric experience.

Guardiola challenged what is considered possible, certainly against elite opponents and bitter rivals. Many would be cautious. Instead, he played United, a team on a run of four straight league wins, pretty much without a defensive shield. Having lost Rodri, Guardiola chose to replace him with...well, nobody really.

Ilkay Gundogan hung in there, unless City were attacking, when he broke forward as hungrily as any forward. On the occasions when United had the ball he received help from full backs Walker and Joao Cancelo, and sometimes from De Bruyne or Bernardo Silva dropping deeper. Then the ball would be retrieved and — trumpet fanfare, charge.

And apologies if that makes City sound unsophisticated. They most certainly are not. The football is arguably the highest standard this country has seen from any club side. Yet there were times when they simply swarmed over United, their pace, their ambition, their



kick past De Gea

EPA



Predatory: Haaland stretches out a leg to stab home De Bruyne's pass

GETTY IMAGES



close range

GETTY IMAGES



Phil your boots: Foden completes his treble from another Haaland pass

EPA

it defies logic

Pep's men blow United away

physicality so utterly superior it defied logic. They should not be this much better. United have good players, too. Yet where were they? Diogo Dalot was booked after two minutes, Tyrell Malacia followed him after 24, and was removed at half-time — but with both United full backs on yellow cards, City didn't do anything as obvious as come down the wings.

They came through the middle, came down the flanks, their dead balls were a menace, it was as if they opened up offensive fronts in all areas. No wonder United appeared rattled.

Sir Alex Ferguson was the last of the club's managers to win his first league derby — in March 1987 — and the television cameras found him looking as miserable as hell in the directors' box. And while five consecutive United managers have lost first time out to City, it is hard to imagine any have felt the hot flush of embarrassment quite like Erik ten Hag at half-time here. United will have fancied their chances going into this. Their form is good, the Ten Hag regime has been winning plaudits — yet this was a humiliating dismantling.

It began when Dalot was booked for crudely taking out Grealish. That was the warning sign. Now he could not touch him again for 88 minutes. It already looked a matter of time before City led, and it was. A lovely exchange of passes ended with Silva cutting

the ball back for Foden after eight minutes. He shot first time and David de Gea did not even get the chance to move. The signs were ominous for United.

Much had been made of the disparity in height between United centre half Lisandro Martinez and Haaland and after 18 minutes, Martinez chose to pick on someone his own size. He kicked Grealish and Gundogan hit a post with the resulting free-kick. In the 31st minute, De Bruyne had a shot tipped over by De Gea. But it was all just postponing the inevitable: which was that Haaland would score.

In the build up to De Bruyne's shot, United wanted the game stopped for an injury to Raphael Varane. The defender went off for treatment and, while this was happening, Haaland took advantage. Was Christian Eriksen really the man who was meant to pick up Haaland at corners? If so, Ten Hag needs his bumps felt.

The striker lost him as easily as one might baffle a two-year-old in a game of hide and seek, and De Bruyne put the ball straight on his head from the corner. Haaland outjumped Scott McTominay and Malacia could not retrieve the ball before it crossed the line. The outcome was no longer in doubt, just the margin.

Which continued to grow. In the 38th minute, De Bruyne sped

forward. A shot was on, but difficult. Feeding Foden on the overlap to his right was another option, and easy to achieve. De Bruyne tried Plan C — an incredible curling ball to Haaland, who had checked his run to stay onside and was haring towards the far post. De Bruyne had no right to find him, Haaland had no right to get there. But he slid and a giant boot meant he got the better of Varane, too. Soon after, the Frenchman left the field injured. He would have paid to get out of there by that stage.

And still City were not finished. De Bruyne and Haaland were a lethal set-up and finishing team, but this time they both combined in the service of Foden. De Bruyne put Haaland away and his cross fed Foden at the far post for his second of the game.

Even when United got three back in the second half — a fabulous shot by Antony the best of them, before Anthony Martial scored late with a header and a penalty — the noise level did not drop. 'The city is ours,' they sung. And a lot more, no doubt, before the season is out.

DE BRUYNE'S MAGIC MOMENT

IAN LADYMAN: PAGES 4-5

Player Ratings



JACK GAUGHAN at the Etihad Stadium

MAN CITY **92.5**
(4-2-3-1) TEAM AVERAGE **8.4****MAN UTD** **54.5**
(4-2-3-1) TEAM AVERAGE **5.0****EDERSON** **6.5**
Nothing he could do about Antony's strike. Provided calm to his back four with the ball.**KYLE WALKER** **7**
Another injury worry for City after he was forced off with a muscle issue before half-time.**MANUEL AKANJI** **8.5**
An almost flawless performance. He is proving to be a stellar signing. Very composed.**NATHAN AKE** **8**
Another smooth display and always shows good use of possession. A dependable deputy.**JOAO CANELO** **8**
Not an awful lot of defending to do and dangerous when acting as an auxiliary midfielder.**BERNARDO SILVA** **9**
The heartbeat alongside Gundogan in midfield. Never stopped driving City on.**ILKAY GUNDOGAN** **8.5**
Let Silva do the running and kept things ticking over. Intelligently picked passes through the lines.**PHIL FODEN** **9.5**
Electrifying coming in off the right. Bagged his first derby goals and terrorised Malacia.**KEVIN DE BRUYNE** **9**
Appears to be becoming even better. Ran the show behind Haaland. Deserved a goal.**JACK GREALISH** **9**
Had the beating of Dalot constantly and a threat throughout. Maybe his best game for the club.**ERLING HAALAND** **9.5**
Incredible — again. Just a phenomenal finisher. Signs that his link-up play is improving too.**SUBSTITUTES**
Gomez 7 (for Walker 41min)
Palmer 6 (for Grealish 75)
Alvarez 6 (for De Bruyne 75)
Mahrez 6 (for Foden 75)
Laporte 6 (for Gundogan 75)**PEP GUARDIOLA** **9**
Has found big-game formula with Haaland, Foden and Grealish trident working perfectly.**REFEREE MICHAEL OLIVER** **7**
Played a superb advantage allowing City to plough forward and score their fourth goal before the break.**DAVID DE GEA** **5**
Let down by those in front of him. Abject defending gave him no chance in goal.**DIOGO DALOT** **4**
Card was marked inside 90 seconds when booked. Embarrassed by Grealish, but had no help.**RAPHAEL VARANE** **5**
Should have been taken off as soon as he pulled up and was left exposed for City's third.**LISANDRO MARTINEZ** **4.5**
Never dealt with Haaland and didn't get to grips with the City runners from midfield, either.**TYRELL MALACIA** **4**
Tough assignment up against Foden but got nowhere near him and was hooked at half-time.**SCOTT MCTOMINAY** **5.5**
One huge early block. Part of midfield that was overrun from the off. Needed more help.**CHRISTIAN ERIKSEN** **5**
Barely found a man all game and resorted to chucking unsuccessful balls long for Rashford.**ANTONY** **6.5**
Completely anonymous out on the right, either side of scoring a stunning consolation goal.**BRUNO FERNANDES** **5**
On the periphery. So dejected that he couldn't even raise the energy to berate team-mates.**JADON SANCHO** **5**
United were so panicked when they had possession, they never utilised him properly.**MARCUS RASHFORD** **5**
Looked a lost soul up front on his own with no support. United didn't get near him.**SUBSTITUTES**
Lindelof 5 (for Varane 40min)
Shaw 6 (for Malacia 46)
Martial 7.5 (for Rashford 59)
Casemiro 6 (for McTominay 59)
Fred 6 (for Sancho 70)**ERIK TEN HAG** **4**
Looked dumbfounded for the majority of the afternoon as United were torn apart.

De Bruyne's pinpoint pass a thing of beauty

IF THERE was one goal — one passage of play — that summed up the difference between these two Manchester teams, it was City's third of a first half that settled this game and underlined just how unbalanced life has become in this great football city.

As a rare United forward move broke down in centre field, Jack Grealish carried the ball into opposition territory. Seeing the danger but not realising it was his job to close it down, Christian Eriksen took two steps away and then, far too late, tried to make up ground towards the ball.

Grealish, with time and space, fed possession right to Kevin De Bruyne... and then the magic began.

City's Belgian — once upon a time their most feted player — had three options as he moved to within 25 yards of goal.

The most obvious pass was to his right, to the overlapping full back. The second-best option seemed to be to take a shot. But this being De Bruyne, and this being City, the 31-year-old chose the most unlikely and by far the most difficult option.

To reach Erling Haaland at the far post, De Bruyne's right-footed cross had to bypass two United defenders and then, most difficult of all, find that elusive channel between the goalkeeper and a covering red shirt.

It had to be perfect and, of course, it was. Haaland, sliding with foot outstretched, rammed the ball into the goal and this game was done.

It was a City goal that said everything about them and much about United, too. Everything City do under Pep Guardiola (below) is underpinned by hard work. For all De Bruyne's excellence, there is no goal unless Haaland makes the most of every physical attribute he possesses to reach the ball.

For some United players, maximum effort continues to look like an option, particularly when things aren't going well. Sadly, there was more evidence of that here.

As Haaland celebrated the second of his three goals in front of the United supporters, his father hugged friends in the posh seats. Alf-Inge was never as talented as his boy. Nowhere near. He did know how to put in a shift, though, and that is one attribute he can claim to have passed down the family line.

That was the big goal, the third one. This is a United team who remain flawed but capable of scoring goals. They were wretched here and still managed to hit three. So at 2-0 down they were technically in the game, but at 3-0 the contest — such as it had been — was dead.

And as the Haaland family did their thing in different parts of the stadium, a number of United supporters left their seats and headed back into town. When their team's football is as bad as this, the pub is a far more attractive option.

City were magnificent here. Their first 45 minutes stands as one of the best halves of football under Guardiola. With United manager Erik ten Hag having left his back four dreadfully exposed by fielding a holding pair of Eriksen and Scott McTominay, City had acres of space in which to work. Nevertheless, there was something about the desperate hunger of City's football that was impressive even

IAN LADYMAN

Football Editor at the Etihad



to those of us who have become familiar with it over recent years.

Haaland and De Bruyne were irresistible, but so too was Phil Foden. Watching the 22-year-old play with such incisiveness, energy and confidence, it was hard to reconcile that with two wholly indifferent shifts contributed to the England cause at Wembley and the San Siro in the previous nine days.

That, though, is a problem for national boss Gareth Southgate to consider and solve. For City, Foden breached the 50-goal mark on one of his best afternoons in a club shirt.

For long periods, United were drowning; utterly incapable of competing with City. In playing so poorly, they confirmed what many still suspect about them. This group are capable of winning big games. They showed that under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer. Still, though, they can collapse when matches start to go badly.

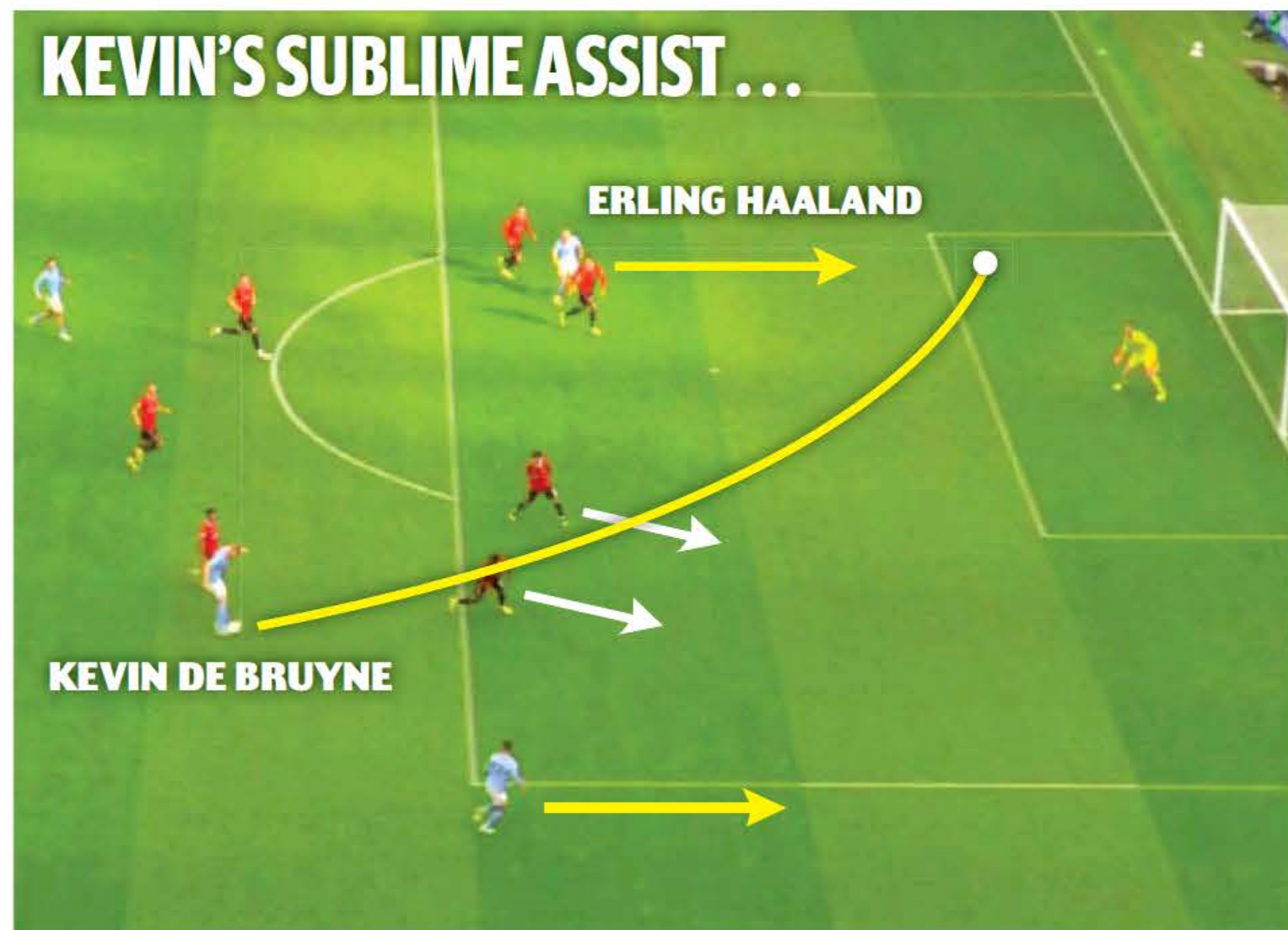
The way they conceded three quick goals towards the end of the first half here was reminiscent of the 4-0 defeat at Brentford in August. These two defeats book-end wins over Liverpool and Arsenal at Old Trafford, and the awarding of the September manager of the month award to Ten Hag. And that's United in a nutshell.

Sometimes it does come down to desire. Individual battles can lay the platform for victory or otherwise. United lost far too many battles. Haaland left Eriksen and McTominay in a daze as he headed in his first goal and his team's second. Shortly after coming on, the Brazilian Casemiro was outmuscled by Bernardo Silva. The score was 4-1 to City at the time, but still the home team showed the greater hunger.

United won the second half, which was weird. Their two late goals were cheered ironically by City fans. Soon Haaland and Foden were squabbling over the match ball like toddlers. From somewhere, a spare appeared. Honours even for those in blue at least. Between blue and red, the imbalance has long been apparent and it remains.

United won the second half, which was weird. Their two late goals were cheered ironically by City fans. Soon Haaland and Foden were squabbling over the match ball like toddlers. From somewhere, a spare appeared. Honours even for those in blue at least. Between blue and red, the imbalance has long been apparent and it remains.

KEVIN'S SUBLIME ASSIST...



Precision: As De Bruyne charges forward, he ignores the easy ball to the right and instead threads a pass past two United defenders which curls perfectly into the path of Haaland who scores SKY SPORTS

Guardiola: We hit them for six,

TYPICALLY, Pep Guardiola picked holes in Manchester City's mauling of their bitter rivals. The City manager was unimpressed with some 'sloppiness' from his players, even though they put six goals past Manchester United with hat-tricks from Phil Foden and Erling Haaland. United scored three times in the second half to take some of the gloss off City's performance. The champions, the only side not to have lost so far this season, are a point behind league leaders Arsenal. 'Perfection doesn't exist, it's

JACK GAUGHAN
at the Etihad Stadium

impossible. But we must try to look there,' Guardiola said. 'We did good, we can do better. Many, many players made sloppy passes. This is not good. We have to be more consistent. 'In some areas we were still not good, the simple things still we are not good enough. We are losing easy balls. We still conceded some actions for the opponent with simple things we were not doing well.' Haaland's phenomenal record

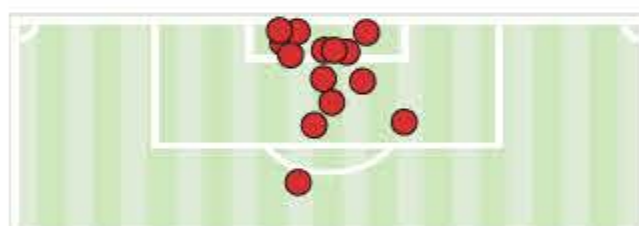
in England continued after he scored a third consecutive home hat-trick, the only player ever to achieve that feat. He also obliterated the record for the quickest player to score three hat-tricks in the top flight. Haaland, 22, now has 14 goals in eight league appearances. 'What I like in the last period of the game is he is involved,' Guardiola added. 'He said (earlier in the season), "I prefer to touch the ball five times and score five goals". I don't like that, I want him to touch the ball more and more. 'I like that he's more involved,



**UNSTOPPABLE ERLING**

9 WITH Erling Haaland around, it was no surprise that yesterday was the highest scoring Manchester derby ever in the sides 188th meeting, with nine goals.

■ HAALAND has 14 goals (below) in eight PL games. He averages a goal every 47.5 mins and 13.6 touches.



■ HE is the first player in PL history to score a hat-trick in three consecutive home games.

■ SINCE the start of 20-21, Man Utd have conceded 4+ first-half goals in four league games. That's twice as often as any other side in that time:

Oct 2020:	Man Utd 1	TOTTENHAM 6
Oct 2021:	Man Utd 0	LIVERPOOL 5
Aug 2022:	BRENTFORD 4	Man Utd 0
Oct 2022:	MAN CITY 6	Man Utd 3

but still weren't at our best!

but don't forget his biggest talent is to put the ball in the net. He has incredible instincts that the ball will arrive and it comes from his mum and dad, he was born with that.' Haaland's father, Alfie, was spotted dancing the 'Poznan' — where supporters turn their back on the game and bounce up and down — during the second half. Haaland and Foden both took a different match ball home with them. Guardiola added: 'We have this incredible sense that Erling always looks starving and is so competitive. The numbers are

scary, honestly. He came here and realised, "Oh, these guys, my mates, run like an animal and I have to do it too". He will have a break. There will be games he does not play.' Haaland believes a disappointing debut for City, in the Community Shield defeat by Liverpool, proved a catalyst for his stunning start. 'My confidence is good, it's always been good,' Haaland said. 'After we played against Liverpool in the Community Shield it was still good after. It was good that match happened, I thought: I have to

be a bit more ready. 'I felt before the (United) game that something special was going to happen and we saw today that some special things happened. 'It was nice. On Friday, I felt it in the whole training ground. It's these games I want to play in. These are the best games where there's a bit extra. 'It could've been more and in the second half we should've been tighter, worked a bit harder, because it was a bit sloppy at times. We lost the second half and this is not good so we still have to work.'

Embarrassing, this was total football v total fools

ANYONE tuning in at half-time should not have been kidded by the 4-0 scoreline. It hadn't been that close. We like to talk about 'identity' in football but Manchester United's was non-existent. On the rare occasions they won the ball in that first half, it was hopelessly lumped long and it came to nothing. It was total football against total fools. You can lose a game, especially against the best team in the world, but this was embarrassing. United are a strange club. They have more ups and downs than a rider on a Tour de France mountain stage and it's never long before the wheels come off. There's a process to it — they'll do something that gets their supporters excited, there is hype,

MY VERDICT
CHRIS SUTTON



then it'll come to a bitter end. They beat Liverpool 4-0 in pre-season, then started the campaign with losses to Brighton and Brentford. They secured four successive wins, then they lose like this. Even I got sucked into the hype. I said City would only win 4-1 in my BBC predictions, having foolishly thought United had improved! Erik ten Hag needs time. This is a team in transition and they went up against an awesome side. But United's players need to take a long look at themselves after this.

Awful United plunged back into darkness

JUST when Manchester United thought it was safe to feel positive again, just when we thought there would be a Manchester derby worthy of the name, this was an annihilation so brutal, so one-sided, that Erik ten Hag was plunged back into his worst nightmare.

If the United manager thought that being 4-0 down before half-time at Brentford in August was an horrific aberration, never to be repeated, here he was just seven weeks later in the same deep, dark hole.

Only this time Manchester City threatened to make it even worse for the Dutchman. The fact the eventual damage was only 6-3 was largely down to Pep Guardiola's exhilarating side taking their foot off the gas in the second half and conceding three goals that distorted the scoreline.

When City hit United for six at Old Trafford in October 2011, Sir Alex Ferguson's team were punished for chasing the game with 10 men. They were never in this one. Four straight wins since the Brentford debacle had raised hopes that United were moving in the right direction under Ten Hag. Let's not forget, the Dutchman arrived here as the Premier League manager of the month.

But the green shoots of recovery were trampled into the Etihad turf so mercilessly that you had to question just how much progress has really been made.

United's fragile confidence crumbled in the face of an irresistible City team performance and the individual brilliance of Erling Haaland, Phil Foden and Kevin De Bruyne.

Ten Hag made a bold team selection, picking only one defensive midfielder in Scott McTominay, perhaps hoping it would send out a message to his players, but the decision backfired as United were overrun. It took him an hour to end McTominay's misery by replacing him with Casemiro, and 70 minutes to double up on holding

CHRIS WHEELER
at the Etihad Stadium

midfielders by sending on Fred. By then, United were 5-1 down and there were more empty blue seats than United fans in the away section.

The team selection allowed Christian Eriksen to start but the Dane must also have suffered flashbacks to Brentford.

Inexplicably, he was left marking Haaland when the Norwegian headed the second goal.

Much was said in the build-up about Lisandro Martinez's lack of height against Haaland, but surely the plan wasn't for Eriksen to pick him up at a corner?

'Of course not,' snorted Ten Hag indignantly, pointing to the fact that Raphael Varane had been hurt seconds earlier.

Varane limped off before half-time, having lost Foden for the first goal and Haaland for the third.

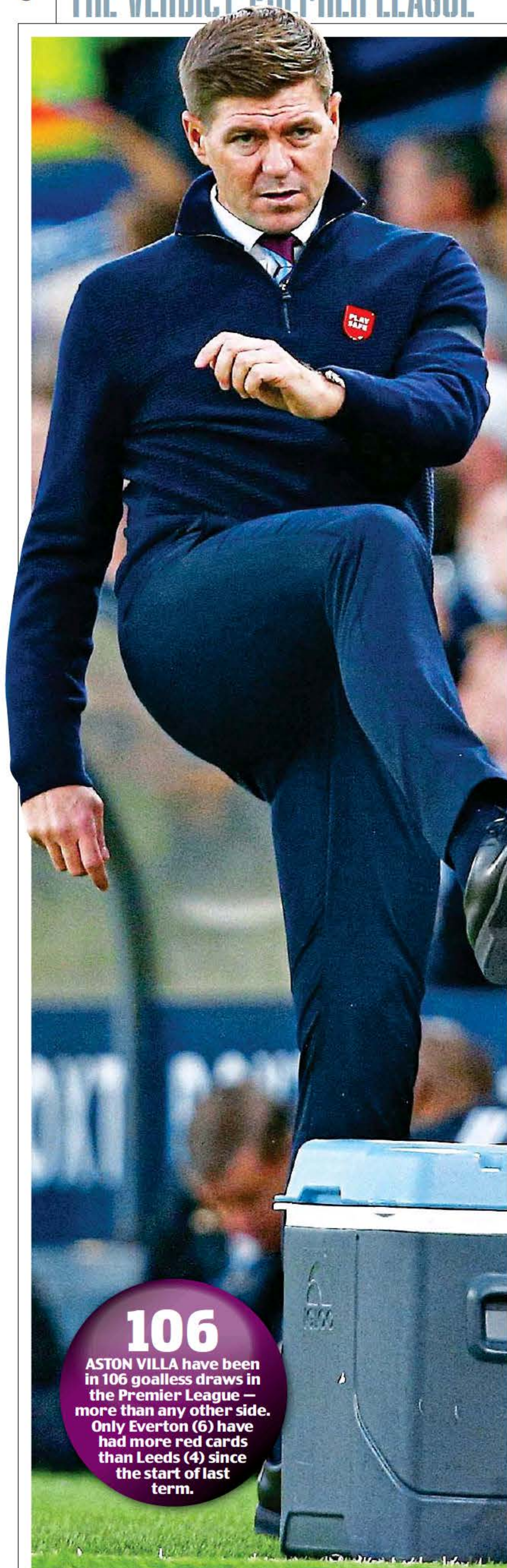
Eriksen and Varane have been key figures in United's revival. So have Martinez and Tyrell Malacia, but they were beaten to the punch for the fourth and fifth goals.

None of Ten Hag's players emerged from this with any credit, except perhaps substitute Anthony Martial who led a meaningless late fightback.

A revitalised Marcus Rashford didn't lay a glove on City and former City man Jadon Sancho was utterly anonymous, and left the field to howls of derision when Ten Hag made his fifth and final substitution.

That left Cristiano Ronaldo stewing on the bench. 'I wouldn't bring him in out of respect for Cristiano and his big career,' said Ten Hag, clearly feeling that he had done Ronaldo a favour.

Every United manager since Ferguson in 1987 has lost his first league derby against Manchester City, so Ten Hag is not alone in that respect. But the manner of this humiliation is a huge backwards step he could not have expected.


106

ASTON VILLA have been in 106 goalless draws in the Premier League — more than any other side. Only Everton (6) have had more red cards than Leeds (4) since the start of last term.

Kicking off: Villa manager Steven Gerrard vents his frustration REX



Rough and tumble: Jack Harrison and Tyrone Mings clash and Jacob Ramsey tackles Brenden Aaronson (right) PA/GETTY IMAGES

Villa stuck in a rut and Gerrard's getting prickly

They flop against 10 men after Sinisterra moment of madness

STEVEN GERRARD said he could not call himself 'disappointed' with this first away point of the season. Almost the entire second half against 10 men? He should have been.

Fast approaching a year in charge, the jury tasked with determining the merits or otherwise of the Aston Villa manager remains split. On this evidence, they will not be returning a verdict any time soon.

Villa were not bad, but nor were they good. Perhaps that is what they are, a mid-table side. Given

CRAIG HOPE

at Elland Road

LEEDS



ASTON VILLA



0

0

the owners' investment, supporters expect better, and so they should.

Gerrard was certainly prickly when asked afterwards if his team

were progressing, the inference being that they were not.

'We were one goal away from you not asking that question,' he cut back. 'We're close to that improvement but there's still tons of work to do.'

But Villa did not score, and that is why questions are justifiably asked. There wouldn't be as much need for the questions if Gerrard's side had won more than one away league game since March. But they haven't.

They should have won here after Leeds winger Luis Sinisterra gifted them a man advantage in the 48th minute when blocking a quick free-kick at the expense of a second yellow card. It was a



brainless act, but Villa weren't too clever either.

Gerrard, cuttingly, did say that one or two of his players might not sleep as well as they should do.

He did not name them, but we're willing to take a not-so-wild guess — Philippe Coutinho and Ollie Watkins.

It was in injury time when Gerrard booted a water bottle with a connection far cleaner than that of striker Watkins, who had just shot at goalkeeper Illan Meslier when free inside the penalty area.

As for Coutinho, he looks not so much a pale imitation and more an anaemic replica of the player who cost Barcelona £142million in 2018.

Gerrard has called the Brazilian his 'little magician'. He has certainly performed a disappearing act this season. No goals, no assists.

There is a lot to like about Gerrard and the feeling remains that he will be a very good manager. But will that be at Villa?

His team needs to be far more ruthless than this if he is to lift the negativity that has descended in recent weeks.

What Gerrard did get right was his assertion that referee Stuart Attwell had a good game. You would not know as much being inside the stadium.

It was perhaps best that Leeds boss Jesse Marsch watched from the press box. Had the excitable American been on the touchline, he probably would have landed another ban.

Come the end, the home fans were mockingly celebrating decisions in their favour as if they had scored a goal, such was their annoyance with Attwell. No crowd does perceived injustice quite like a partisan Elland Road.

'You're not fit to referee' they chorused. That felt very unfair.

What was fair was the red card for Sinisterra — he had earlier correctly been booked for a foul — and

HOW THEY STAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Arsenal	8	7	0	1	20	8	12	21
Man City	8	6	2	0	29	9	20	20
Tottenham	8	5	2	1	19	10	9	17
Brighton	7	4	2	1	14	8	6	14
Chelsea	7	4	1	2	10	10	0	13
Man Utd	7	4	0	3	11	14	-3	12
Newcastle	8	2	5	1	12	8	4	11
Fulham	8	3	2	3	13	15	-2	11
Liverpool	7	2	4	1	18	9	9	10
Brentford	8	2	4	2	15	12	3	10
Everton	8	2	4	2	7	7	0	10
Leeds	7	2	3	2	10	10	0	9
Bournemouth	8	2	3	3	6	19	-13	9
Aston Villa	8	2	2	4	6	10	-4	8
West Ham	8	2	1	5	5	9	-4	7
Southampton	8	2	1	5	8	13	-5	7
Cardiff	7	1	3	3	8	11	-3	6
Wolves	8	1	3	4	3	9	-6	6
Nottm Forest	7	1	1	5	6	17	-11	4
Leicester	7	0	1	6	10	22	-12	1

Attwell's handling of an irritable game was balanced. He showed six cards in total and you could not find fault with any of them.

Once their anger had subsided, the Leeds supporters rightly applauded those players who had fought their way to a point.

The closest they came to losing was when a Coutinho volley rebounded off the post and Watkins followed up to stab wide on 50 minutes.

It was ironic that one of the tactics they employed was, understandably, wasting time. Ironic in that they had been so irked by Villa's attempts to do similar before the red card.

But it should also be said, Villa's strategy to eat up time from the first whistle felt somewhat bizarre.

This was the all white of Leeds United they were playing, not Real Madrid. Surely, a team with the supposed attacking talent of Coutinho, Watkins and John McGinn should show more faith in their ability to win a game?

There was a glimpse of Coutin-

ho's old self with one mazy run on 18 minutes. But the weak finish was the modern-day version.

Home playmaker Brenden Aaronson was not faring much better. The American has been busy and inventive since arriving in the summer, but he looked lightweight here.

Twice he stayed down clutching his leg after hefty first-half challenges — one legal, one not — and Villa's roughhouse tactic appeared to rob the 21-year-old of his usual bounce.

But for all of Villa's efforts in disrupting the game, it was they who had the better of the chances come half-time.

Meslier saved twice from Watkins and Leon Bailey, although both shots were directed straight at the Frenchman.

Leeds had a couple of moments of promise but, each time Sinisterra fizzed balls through the goalmouth, there were no takers.

Patrick Bamford must have been wishing he was on the pitch instead of the bench and, by the time he was introduced, Sinisterra was off.

But Bamford's arrival gave Leeds a focus previously lacking and he came close to laying on a winner for fellow substitute Mateusz Klich during injury time, but McGinn recovered to block inside the six-yard area.

Had that gone in, the jury on Gerrard might just have been readying their verdict.

LEEDS (4-2-3-1): Meslier 6.5; Kristensen 6 (Ayling 6.9, 6), Koch 6.5, COOPER 7, Struijk 6.5; Adams 6.5, Roca 6.5 (Firpo 5.8, 6); Harrison 6 (Klich 7.9), Aaronson 5.5 (Sommerville 7.9), Sinisterra 5; Rodrigo 5.5 (Bamford 6.9, 6.5). Booked: Sinisterra, Roca, Rodrigo, Koch. Sent off: Sinisterra.

Manager: Jesse Marsch 6.
ASTON VILLA (4-3-3): Martinez 6.5; Young 7, Kona 7, Mings 7, Augustinsson 5.5 (Bednarek 4.5, 6); Ramsey 7 (Ings 8.3), Douglas Luiz 6.5, McGinn 6.5; Bailey 5.5 (Buendia 6.4, 7), Watkins 5.5, Coutinho 5.5. Booked: Augustinsson, Bailey. **Manager:** Steven Gerrard 6. **Referee:** Stuart Attwell 7. **Attendance:** 36,582.

Bosses in war of words over time-wasting

STEVEN GERRARD said he did not care about the opinions of Jesse Marsch after the Leeds boss accused Aston Villa of time-wasting.

A bad-tempered encounter finished goalless at Elland Road after Villa failed to take advantage when home winger Luis Sinisterra was sent off in the 48th minute.

Tensions had not eased after the game, either.

Marsch — serving a touchline ban following his clash with the officials at Brentford last month — criticised Villa's tactics in attempting to slow the game and also hinted at his unhappiness with referee Stuart Attwell.

But Gerrard hit back, saying: 'Was he happy with their time-wasting when they went to 10? It works both ways. I'm not really interested in what Jesse thinks and his opinion. My priority is Aston Villa and I'm here to talk about our performance and what we need to do to get points.'

As for Attwell, who was targeted by the home crowd, Gerrard said: 'He had a good game. Is there anything he got wrong? If the refs don't get anything wrong, that's a good game. Well done to Stuart.' But Marsch was not happy and claimed Villa had ruined the spectacle for supporters. 'I will

CRAIG HOPE
at Elland Road

be speaking to someone from the league,' he said. 'I've already spoken to the referees' committee. This is clearly a tactic. They took up another hour and a half of our time this week to remind us they will do better at controlling the run of play in matches.'

'I didn't create that dialogue, that's not my agenda, that's the league's agenda. I feel bad for our fans when they have to come here and watch that.'

'I feel we almost have to apologise to the fans. They want to see an entertaining game, but they get a match which is slowed down by the opponents from the first whistle.'

'It's respect for how we play against the ball and the aggression we show. Teams are trying to flip the script on that. It's not new. I've encountered that in my career.'

Gerrard said: 'We knew it was going to be competitive. We wanted to frustrate Leeds. Leeds want to get into a rhythm, they want to run all over you. We slowed the game to our tempo. We went to war when we needed to go to war. The sending-off was helpful, but from that moment we had to be better and drag the points away from Leeds.'

LEEDS FORWARD SENT OFF AFTER STOPPING FREE-KICK



LEEDS were forced to play with 10 men from the 48th minute after Luis Sinisterra was shown a second yellow card for blocking a Villa free-kick (above). His first yellow was for a soft trip and his dismissal (left) left the home side to scrap for a point.

ENGLAND WORLD CUP WATCH

By GEORGE BOND

GOOD WEEK

PHIL FODEN

IF GARETH SOUTHGATE could choose one player to replicate his club form in an England shirt, it would be Foden. How different he looks stretching the play, without having to wonder whether he's getting in the way of an onrushing wing-back. His three goals were examples of his superb instinct to find space, and having the speed to make it count. Bukayo Saka is in fine form himself, but he will not dislodge this version of Foden from the line-up.

JARROD BOWEN

BOWEN was one of 12 players in the most recent 26-man squad not to play a minute of football against Italy and Germany, and his place was under threat from Marcus Rashford and Jadon Sancho. But a first league goal of the season against Wolves on Saturday should be the boost he needs to kick on for Qatar.

CALLUM WILSON

IVAN TONEY will tell you how hard it is to get even a minute up front for England, but Wilson's excellent response to £60million Alexander Isak coming in at Newcastle shows just how little he's prepared to sit around not playing.

BAD WEEK

TRENT ALEXANDER-ARNOLD

IF JURGEN KLOPP was convinced that Alexander-Arnold is a fine defender, then no one told Brighton. Mentally, he looks shot after a fortnight of being conspicuous by his absence from the England squad and relentless debate over whether this supremely talented player can do the job others in his position consider their primary task. Leandro Trossard ran him ragged and Brighton could have been four up inside 20 minutes as they repeatedly targeted the Liverpool right. Until Alexander-Arnold gives them a reason not to, Liverpool's opponents will keep going at him.

ERIC DIER

THE Tottenham centre back only got back into the England set-up last month for the first time in nearly two years, but struggled in both matches and was then given the run around by Gabriel Jesus on Saturday. But the bar is not all that high for an England centre back at present.

JORDAN HENDERSON

HE WAS reduced to a bit-part player at Euro 2020 last summer, though was extremely valuable off the field. But his time looks to be up for England, especially with Jude Bellingham — who captained Borussia Dortmund at just 19 on Saturday — looking imperious.

Damaging defeat gives chastening re

MATT BARLOW

at the Emirates Stadium

to bounce back as a team and make a run of good results to change this feeling. We have to move forward. The best answer we can give is to win the next few games.'

This was Tottenham's first defeat of the Premier League campaign. Their first in the competition since mid-April. They scored six in their previous match and are four points off the top, yet this seemed like a chastening reminder of their limitations. Conte's style is not particularly attractive if his attacking players are

not clinical on the counter-attack and, at Arsenal, they were not.

Tottenham's boss left the Emirates Stadium grumbling about openings wasted by poor passing on the break in the first half and the inconsistencies of English referees after Emerson Royal's red card, in the 62nd minute.

Royal had been run ragged by Gabriel Martinelli from the first seconds and there was an element of frustration about the tackle on his fellow Brazilian.

It was the challenge of a defender tired of chasing. His lazy effort ended with his studs going into Martinelli's ankle

and it looked up as Conte claimed Royal will be back in League fixtures. Everton and Manchester City, although there are back, injuries a Lucas Moura substitution for at least two from international hamstring problems. As Conte has not Bryan Gil, he provides room for manoeuvre may go some way to indecision following Royal was sent

YOUNG GUNS ARE HERE TO STAY

Youngest average Premier League line-up this season:

Southampton	24y 136d
ARSENAL	24y 186d
Leeds	25y 68d
Nottm Forest	25y 194d
Everton	25y 306

21 THERE were 21 passes in the build-up to Thomas Partey's opening goal, the joint-longest sequence leading to a goal in the top flight this season — alongside Fabio Vieira, also for Arsenal, against Brentford last month.



Red hot: Arteta (right) and players revel in a derby win
AP/REUTERS

Arsenal must cash

LONGEVITY is the buzz word at Arsenal. Yes, they are enjoying the here and now following a run of seven wins in eight matches that leaves them top of the Premier League.

But they aren't patting themselves on the back; with their promising start comes recognition that this isn't time for self-congratulation. Instead, there is acceptance that the club finds itself in a moment they cannot afford to let slip.

This young Arsenal team — one of the youngest in Europe's top five divisions — appear to be on the brink of something special. Ensuring it evolves, not fades, is a key motivation right now.

The priority is to extend Bukayo Saka's contract. There is confidence from Arsenal that a deal for the England international to extend by at least a further three or four years can be struck.

A contract, which would make Saka one of the best-paid players at the club, has been formally offered but is yet to

SAMI MOKBEL

at the Emirates Stadium

ARSENAL
Partey 20
Jesus 49
Xhaka 67

TOTTENHAM
Kane 31 (pen)

3
1

be signed. The offer would guarantee Saka close to £200,000 a week — a huge amount for a 21-year-old. But there are a few things Saka should consider before he signs.

First, is he underselling himself? Phil Foden recently signed a deal at Manchester City worth £225,000 a week.

Second, would he benefit from a contractual clause that facilitates any departure should Arsenal — as unlikely

It's perfect time to tie Saka, Saliba and Martinelli

as it seems right now — fail to qualify for the Champions League? But from a purely footballing point of view, why would Saka consider leaving? There isn't a more exciting team in England.

Saka's personal investment in taking an executive box at the Emirates should serve as encouragement that he is fully invested in life at Arsenal.

The club also see extending William Saliba's contract as a priority.

The 21-year-old's performances at the heart of Mikel Arteta's defence have earned rave reviews. Jamie Carragher was the latest to tweet his appreciation during the France international's brilliant display in Saturday's win over Tottenham. You can also expect the

wheels to start moving. Saka's contract for Gabriel Jesus, not-too-distant future fast emerging as one of the most important players in Arteta's plans, and directness a key to Arsenal's excellent start.

Sportsmail understands Arsenal have been admiring glances from Arsenal's top recent months — clubs believed to be 21-year-old.

Persuading the aforementioned sign long-term deals subject to varying factors so than qualifying for the Champions League.

Reminder of Spurs' limitations

gly. Even if light on force, ed, it was a poor tackle. nned from Premier against Brighton, anchester United — and, are options at right wing re biting elsewhere. ffered a setback and ki is expected to be out weeks after returning al duty with a lem. ever shown much faith in rovably feels there is little uvre in attack, which ay to explaining his wing the red card. After off Spurs played for nine

minutes with Richarlison vaguely deployed at right wing-back but barely defending, during which time Granit Xhaka scored Arsenal's third — created in that area of the pitch. Even with two right wing-backs on the bench, Conte wanted to send on left-sided Ryan Sessegnon, before summoning midfielder Yves Bissouma for a double change. By the time Xhaka made it 3-1, Sessegnon and Bissouma were still not on. When the substitution finally came, it was a quadruple change, involving Davinson Sanchez and Matt Doherty. By then, it was too late. The game's key phase had ended, there were 18 minutes from the errors leading to Arsenal's

second goal and the third in the 67th minute, with the red card in between. It was most unlike Conte. Some of these lesser-trusted Tottenham players have expressions of patience worn thin but the manager is going to need them, starting with the Champions League tie at Eintracht Frankfurt tomorrow. Defeat would make it three losses in four games and the summer optimism will be draining away. 'Even when we were getting good results we said that there was a gap to improve,' said Lloris. 'We are still looking for improvements. The season is very long.'



Downbeat: Antonio Conte GETTY IMAGES



Winning words: vice-captain Gabriel Jesus gives a rousing team talk

GETTY IMAGES

in on dream start

down tinelli

ng on an improved Martinelli in the e. The Brazilian is of the most importa's team, his pace facet in the club's

tands there have ces at Martinelli p-four rivals in nelsea among the e monitoring the

mentioned trio to at the Emirates is ctors — none more regularly for the t looks inconceiv-

able that Arsenal will not finish in the top four this season. The club intend to spend again in January with a new central midfielder on the radar.

Arteta is taking Arsenal's involvement in the Europa League seriously — but expect to see the Spaniard rest key players during the group stages of the tournament as he prioritises the Premier League.

Players are also taking responsibility for fitness into their own hands, with a number understood to have employed private trainers to ensure their bodies are fully functioning from week to week.

They are not the only ones. England captain Harry Kane, who scored his 100th away Premier League goal against Arsenal on Saturday, is seeing Canada-based Spanish sports medicine specialist Dr Alejandro Elorriaga Claraco away from Tottenham.

Arteta and his players are leaving no stone uncovered in ensuring their Premier League challenge does not fade. But if Arsenal somehow capitulate, you do wonder what knock-on consequence

it may have on their attempts to secure the futures of their best young players.

However, the leaders in this Arsenal team — the likes of Granit Xhaka, Gabriel Jesus and captain Martin Odegaard — will ensure the team stay on an even keel should the waters get choppy. Xhaka, in particular, deserves credit for the way he has turned his Arsenal career around after being vilified by his own supporters in 2019, an incident which eventually led to him being stripped of the club captaincy.

But — armband or no armband — Xhaka remains one of Arsenal's lieutenants. Ask many at the club's training HQ and they will tell you he is club captain in all but name.

At half-time on Saturday, the Swiss midfielder is understood to have apologised for his role in what led to Tottenham being awarded a first-half penalty that Kane dispatched to equalise. Xhaka failed to clear in the box before Gabriel's poor tackle on Richarlison forced referee Anthony Taylor's hand.

Gabriel's decision to go to ground was misjudged, while Aaron Ramsdale's

decision to come rushing out before realising he had to retreat sparked havoc in defence. But the fact that Xhaka volunteered to take the bullets in the confines of Arsenal's dressing room speaks volumes for his character.

It all bodes well for Arteta's 'process'. Understandably, the Gunners boss will temper the euphoria and expectations — his team host Liverpool on Sunday. Victory against Jurgen Klopp's side and keeping a lid on things will become considerably harder.

ARSENAL (4-3-3): Ramsdale 6.5; White 7 (Toniassu 89min), Saliba 8, Gabriel 6.5, Zinchenko 7 (Tierney 73, 6.5); Partey 8 (Lokonga 73, 6.5), Xhaka 8; Saka 7.5, Odegaard 7 (Vieira 80), JESUS 8.5 (Nketiah 80) Martinelli 7.5. Scorers: Partey 20, Jesus 49, Xhaka 67. Booked: Saliba, Martinelli. Manager: Mikel Arteta 8.

TOTTENHAM (3-4-3): Lloris 5; Romero 6.5, Dier 6, Lenglet 5.5 (Sanchez 71, 5.5); Royal 5, Bentancur 7, Hojbjerg 6 (Skipp 75, 6), Perisic 6.5 (Bissouma 71, 6); Richarlison 6.5 (Sessegnon 71, 5.5), Kane 7.5, Son 6 (Doherty 72, 6). Scorer: Kane 31 (pen). Booked: Dier. Sent off: Royal. Manager: Antonio Conte 6.

Referee: Anthony Taylor 7. Attendance: 60,278.

Cherries hold firm as O'Neil wins support of the squad



IAN WINROW

at the Vitality Stadium

GARY O'NEIL insists he is not thinking about his long-term future but the Bournemouth interim head coach is clearly building support inside the dressing room.

The Cherries remain unbeaten in the four games O'Neil has overseen since being placed in temporary charge after Scott Parker was dismissed following the 9-0 defeat by Liverpool. During that spell, Bournemouth have appeared impressively resolute — although Saturday's scoreless draw also highlighted their continuing limitations as an attacking force. Progress, though, has clearly been made and while O'Neil is unlikely to gain a clear understanding of where his future lies before the club's ownership is resolved — Las Vegas businessman Bill Foley's £150million planned takeover is believed to be close to being completed — Dominic Solanke has backed the caretaker boss' suitability for the long-term job. 'We all know Gary really well,' said the Bournemouth forward. 'He has been with us for a while now and you can see how well we are doing on the pitch under him. He has got our respect and if that's the case (that he gets the job) we will be more than happy.'

Left back Jordan Zemura also added his voice of support for O'Neil. 'Gary's doing a fantastic job,' he said. 'He's been here for two seasons now and he's a great person, great manager and great guy.'

'He just gives us the freedom to embrace ourselves on the pitch, just gives us opportunities to play freely and just reminds us about the quality we have in the room.'

O'Neil insists his focus is on the here and now, although he is clearly becoming versed in the ups and downs of management after his side were on the wrong end of a contentious penalty decision when Zemura went down under a challenge from Kristoffer Ajer.

'I have zero thought about what any result does for me,' he said. 'Absolutely zero. I am focused purely on what it does for the club. So tonight I go home and put another point on the board for the club. I'm enjoying it, although I hated those 90 minutes because we didn't show what I thought we could show.'

Brentford manager Thomas Frank had similar cause for frustration. Ivan Toney missed a number of half-chances but Frank insists the striker's mentality will help him overcome the disappointment of missing out on any action for England this week.

'Ivan's mentality is one of his biggest strengths and you can see that in the games as well — he misses a chance and he's on to the next action,' insisted the Danish coach.

'He is very strong mentally which is why he is now doing very well.'

BOURNEMOUTH (4-2-3-1): Neto 7; Smith 6, MEPHAM 8, Senesi 7, Zemura 6; L Cook 6, Lerma 6; Tavernier 6, Solanke 7, Billing 6; Moore 6 (Christie 72min, 6). Booked: Lerma. Manager: Gary O'Neil 7.

BRENTFORD (4-3-3): Raya 6; Ajer 5 (Hickey 61, 6), Jansson 6 (Zanka 64, 6), Mee 7, Henry 7; Baptiste 6 (Onyeka 84, 6), Janelt 6, Jensen 6; Mbeumo 5 (Wissa 61, 6), Toney 5, Damsgaard 6 (Dasilva 61, 6). Booked: Hickey, Toney. Manager: Thomas Frank 6.5. Referee: Thomas Bramall 6. Attendance: 10,126.

Trossard's treble gives De Zerbi his wish

LEANDRO TROSSARD'S introduction to Roberto De Zerbi was a text message from his new manager that carried a simple instruction: 'I want more goals from you.'

The Belgian could not have provided a more emphatic response as he became the first visiting player to score a hat-trick at Anfield since Arsenal's Andrey Arshavin netted four in 2009.

Trossard's treble earned Brighton a 3-3 draw with Liverpool but on reflection it could — and should — have been so much more.

De Zerbi, in charge for the first time following Graham Potter's defection to Chelsea, gave an indication of the adventurous way he will want Brighton to play and Trossard can see only exciting times for a team that deserves its place in the top four.

'The last months we have stepped up our level,' said Trossard. 'It has increased, the whole team has played so well, got a lot of points, we have got a lot of confidence. We need to carry on how we are, working hard, and you will see at the end, you get what you deserve.'

'You can see it on the pitch how the new manager wants to let us play, how passionate he is about football. We can progress under him. It is clear how he wants to play and even in three days I've

By **DOMINIC KING**

learned a lot. We are going to enjoy our time with him.' Trossard certainly enjoyed his trip to Merseyside. He left cradling the match ball — his first treble since 2018 when he was playing for Genk — but he also left with a slight frustration that his efforts did not secure three points.

'The manager said he was happy with me, how I already played, but that he wanted more goals from me,' Trossard revealed. 'I said, "If you get me the chances, I will score them!" And now today it's brilliant that I could score three and especially that we got a point from it as well.'

'You know at Anfield that it is always hard but, if you are 2-0 up, you just have that feeling to get the three points.'

'On the other hand, they had some chances. Maybe at the end it is a well-deserved draw but you always want more, especially as we are playing with a lot of confidence.'

Trossard added: 'I had a knock on my knee, I said I will carry on but I didn't want to take any chances of it getting worse. But then I scored the goal. I suppose that's how football goes.'



Hat-trick hero: Trossard leads the celebrations

GETTY IMAGES

10

THIS is Liverpool's worst start to a season for eight years, with just 10 points after seven games — the same as in 2014-15, when they finished sixth under Brendan Rodgers.

DOMINIC KING

at Anfield

LIVERPOOL
Firmino 33, 54
Webster 63 (og)

3

BRIGHTON
Trossard 4, 17, 83

3

JURGEN KLOPP was seven games into his reign as Liverpool boss when he responded to the scenes unfolding around him in an unforgettable way.

It was November 2015 and Liverpool were about to lose for the first time under Klopp, 2-1 to Crystal Palace at Anfield. As the game entered stoppage time, he looked over his shoulder, did a double take, and then spun on his heels to take in the sight of sceptical supporters streaming towards the exit.

Klopp couldn't believe what he was seeing. He was angry, initially, but eventually he appreciated the dislocation between fan base and team and vowed that it was his mission to ensure the stadium stayed full until the final whistle from then on. Over the past seven years, he has exorcised doubt.

Had Klopp looked over his shoulder on Saturday afternoon, however, he would have been confronted by a jarringly similar scene. Brighton had just plundered the late equaliser their adventurous play deserved and, as stoppage time started, a flurry of fans began to head for home.

'Is there a fire drill?' Brighton's travelling contingent gleefully crowed.

All the while, Klopp stood on the touchline with his assistant Pep Lijnders and tried to spark a last, desperate attempt to

change the narrative. Nothing happened. Liverpool continued to flounder, their fans continued to file out.

The significance and symbolism of it all could not be escaped. On that fateful day when Crystal Palace provided a reality check, Klopp took on the Kop post-match and said: 'I felt pretty alone in that moment — between 82 minutes and 94 minutes you can make eight goals.'

This time, Klopp (right) had no quibble with anyone who felt they had seen enough.

Brighton, playing a 3-4-2-1 formation that took Liverpool by surprise, profited from the chaos within the home team's system and scored three goals — it was only Alisson's

outstanding goalkeeping that stopped them getting six.

What truly alarmed Klopp, however, was the fact that Liverpool never convinced for a single moment that they would hang on for three points, despite going 3-2 ahead in 63rd minute, when Adam Webster's own goal — on top of Roberto Firmino's double — threatened to complete a comeback.

Tellingly, the noise within the stadium subsided as Brighton, buoyed by the attacking menace of Leandro Trossard and the excellent Danny Welbeck, began to ask questions again.

The only thing to conclude is that the trust this fan base had in their team — temporarily at least — has been eroded.

'It's not the first time,' said Klopp.

'It just

didn't happen too often because we were more convincing.

'It's normal and I don't blame anyone for that in the stands, not at all — this feeling was obvious, it was not done, 3-3, and that feels again like a defeat even when it is not a defeat.'

'We have to fight through this. The boys can play much better, my job is to create a situation where they deliver. For that you need stability and consistency and you get that with top defending. We didn't defend top in the beginning and then not even during the game.'

Klopp specifically called what he was watching at one point 'horrendous' and nobody was going to challenge that appraisal.

Trent Alexander-Arnold, inevitably, became a focus for what went wrong but to put the blame solely on him is bogus. All over the pitch there are problems.

'It's more complex than it just being the defence,' said Virgil van Dijk. 'We all know we have the responsibility of defending, but also attacking.'

'Defending starts from the front and attacking starts from the back and that's how we have our principles. We have to get back to

that, to that consistency. I'm confident we will turn this around.

'We know we have tough games ahead — Rangers in the Champions League, then Arsenal, Rangers again, Manchester City, West Ham. So let's just go for it, get the confidence and consistency back.'

Easier said than done. Brighton, who were invigorated by Graham Potter's replacement Roberto De Zerbi, caused no end of trouble and there is no question the forwards of Arsenal and Manchester City will watch clips from this contest and spot an opportunity to cause mayhem.

Liverpool's form has fallen off a cliff alarmingly quickly; seven of the team that started this match lined up against Real Madrid in last season's Champions League final.

Klopp needs to rectify things immediately but the feeling persists that there is some kind of hangover they cannot shake.

Van Dijk disagreed, insisting that the key to turning the situation around is hard work and playing with expression.

But words are proving to be hollow for Liverpool and it seems they are not being taken on board by those in the stands.

The situation is not as bleak as that day seven years ago against Crystal Palace but the warning signs, big and bold, are there. It is going to take every bit of Klopp's acumen and his players' ability to turn it all around.

LIVERPOOL (4-3-3): Alisson 8; Alexander-Arnold 5, Matip 5, Van Dijk 5, Tsimikas 5 (Milner 59min, 5); Henderson 7 (Elliott 59, 7), Fabinho 5, Thiago 6 (Nunez 89); Salah 5, Firmino 7 (Jota 76), Carvalho 5 (Diaz 46, 6).

Scorers: Firmino 33, 54, Webster 63 (og).

Booked: Alexander-Arnold.

Manager: Jurgen Klopp 5.

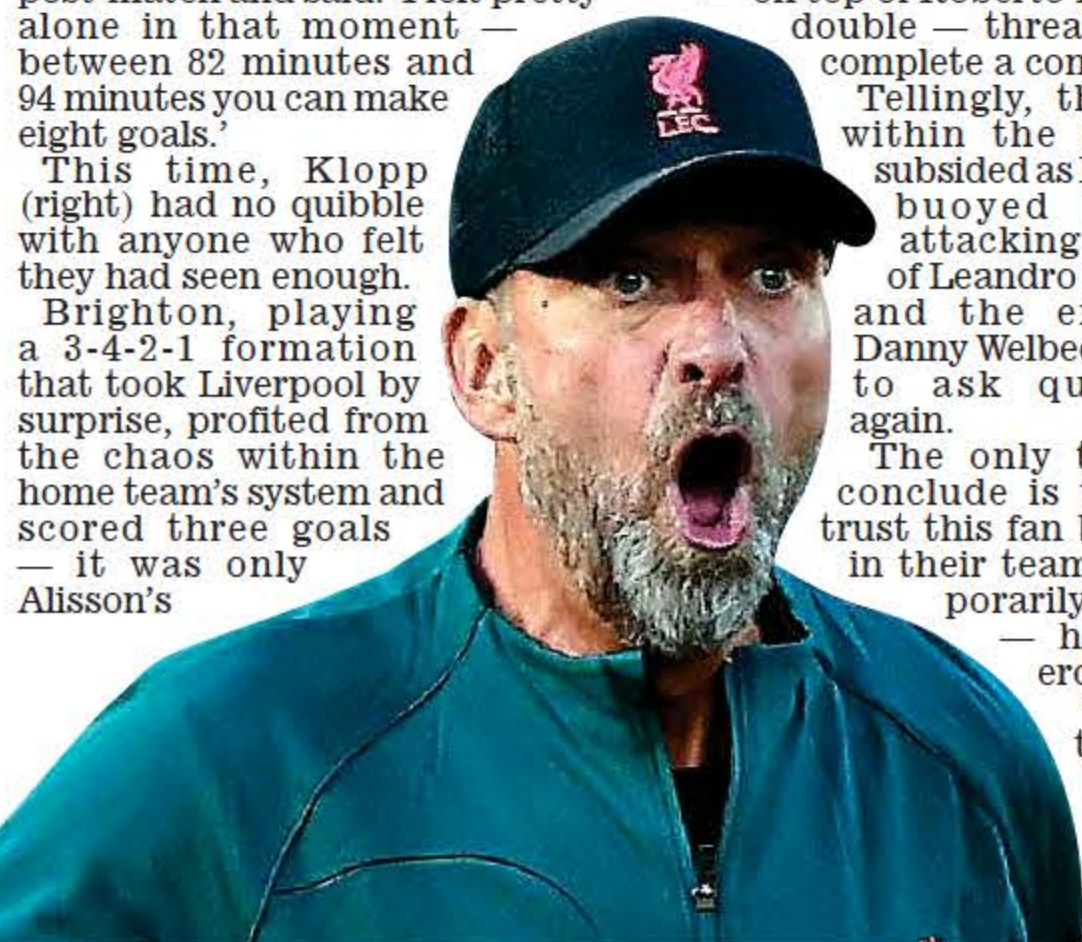
BRIGHTON (3-4-2-1): Sanchez 7; Veltman 7, Dunk 7, Webster 7; March 7, Caicedo 7, Mac Allister 7, Estupinan 7 (Lallana 76); Gross 7 (Mitoma 65, 6.5), TROSSARD 9 (Lamprey 87); Welbeck 8. Scorer: Trossard 4, 17, 83.

Booked: Estupinan.

Manager: Roberto De Zerbi 7.

Referee: Andy Madley 6.

Attendance: 53,336.



Wilson shows Isak he's still the main man

CALLUM WILSON was not the striker whose name was on everybody's lips ahead of Newcastle's trip to Fulham.

The focus had been on whether former Magpie Aleksandar Mitrovic could continue his fine form against his old club and what impact the absence of record signing Alexander Isak would have on Eddie Howe's side.

The answers were 'no' and 'very little'. Mitrovic barely had a touch before he was forced off with an injury while Newcastle did not need their £63million striker leading the line.

Wilson (below), who was back from a five-week injury absence, scored after just 11 minutes to put Newcastle on course for their first away victory of the season.

There was a bit of rustiness to his game early on, with the striker hitting the post from five yards out in the fourth minute. He could have had a hat-trick before half-time after going close with another effort that flew just over the bar.

'The one he's missed early on he'll probably be disappointed with,' Howe said. 'The goal that he did score is a typical striker's finish. He's in the right place at the right time to finish the move off.'

'He's a hugely important part of our team, a focal point. We rely not just on his goals but his movement, his work rate. His appearance in the team gave us confidence.'

Isak is not

KATHRYN BATTE

at Craven Cottage

FULHAM	1
Decordova-Reid 88	
NEWCASTLE	4
Wilson 11 Almiron 33, 57 S Longstaff 43	

expected to be out for long and Wilson will have a fight on his hands to keep his place in the team. 'Knowing Callum as I do, I don't think anything really fazes him other than trying to be the best that he can be,' Howe said.

'He's got an incredible attitude to the game, an incredible way of looking at life and football. He will see it as healthy competition. It will inspire him to perform better because he knows he's got someone, plus Chris Wood, breathing down his neck and that's very healthy for the team.'

Wilson was not the only player to step up in another's absence. Miguel Almiron has started every game this season but with Newcastle missing the spark of injured Allan Saint-Maximin, they needed him to show more in the final third.

In the 33rd minute, he delivered. Almiron raced on to a ball over the top from Bruno Guimaraes and hit a sublime volley into the top corner.

'He's capable of doing magical things and that

was a magical goal,' Howe said. 'Bruno was involved again and they've got a really good understanding.'

'I'm delighted for Miggy — he's such an infectious character, so it was great to see.'

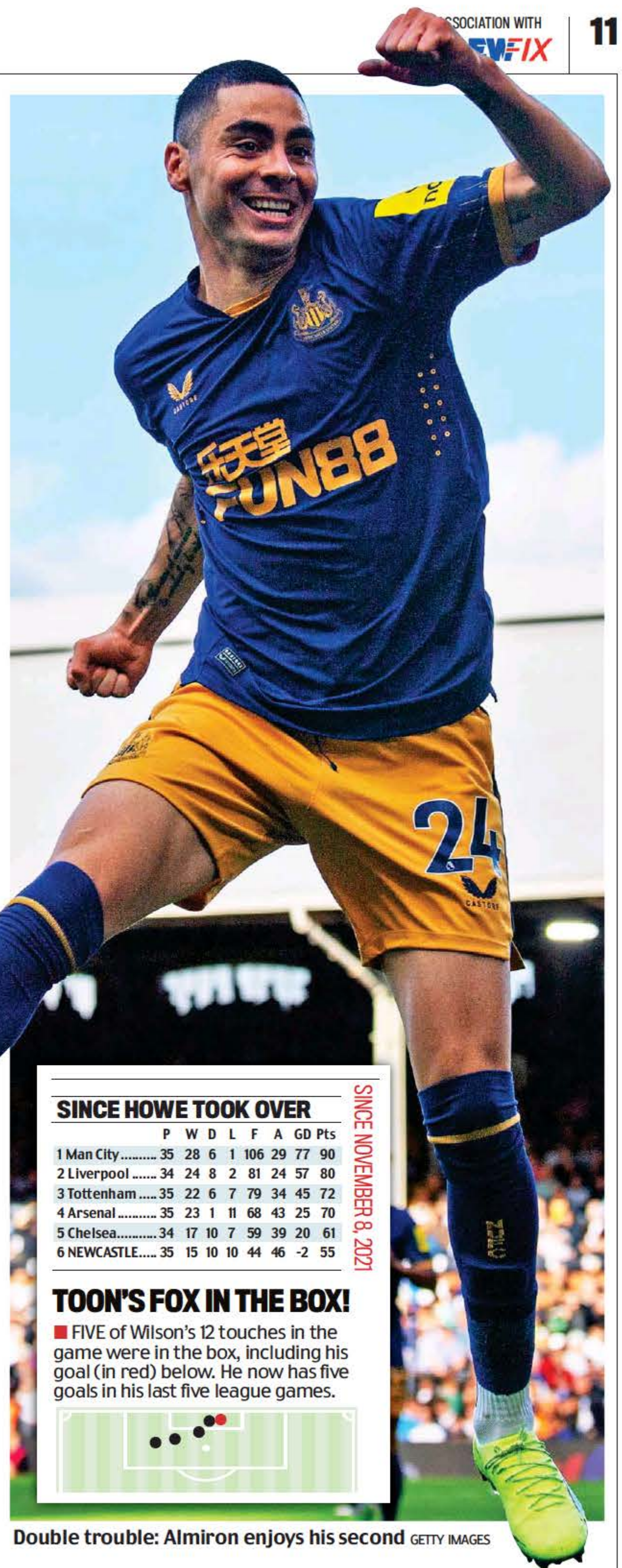
It was an early goal-of-the-season contender but Almiron has often been criticised for missing the easy chances, so it was only right that his second goal was a tap-in at the back post.

That Wood and Joelinton were unused substitutes shows the depth Newcastle now have. It's a different story for Fulham, who also lost Layvin Kurzawa to injury after Mitrovic was forced off.

Silva said it was 'too early' to know how long either player will be out for. He now has eight players injured, while Nathaniel Chalobah will miss the next three games after his early red card for a reckless tackle on Sean Longstaff.

FULHAM (4-2-3-1): Leno 7; Mbabu 5 (Cairney 45min, 6), Tosin 5, Ream 5, Kurzawa 4 (Diop 45, 5); Reed 6, Chalobah 4; James 4 (Kebano 70, 6), Pereira 6, Decordova-Reid 5; Mitrovic 4 (Vinicius 37, 5). **Booked:** Reed, Mitrovic. **Sent off:** Chalobah. **Scorer:** Decordova-Reid 88. **Manager:** Marco Silva 5.

NEWCASTLE (4-3-3): Pope 6; Trippier 7.5 (Lewis 83), Schar 7 (Lascelles 83), Botman 7, Burn 7.5 (Targett 82); Longstaff 8, Guimaraes 7.5 (Anderson 59, 7), Willock 7.5; **ALMIRON** 8.5, Murphy 7.5, Wilson 7.5 (Fraser 65, 6). **Booked:** None. **Scorers:** Wilson 11, Almiron 33, 57, Longstaff 43. **Manager:** Eddie Howe 7. **Referee:** Darren England 7. **Att:** 22,913.



SINCE HOWE TOOK OVER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Man City	35	28	6	1	106	29	77	90
2 Liverpool	34	24	8	2	81	24	57	80
3 Tottenham	35	22	6	7	79	34	45	72
4 Arsenal	35	23	1	11	68	43	25	70
5 Chelsea	34	17	10	7	59	39	20	61
6 NEWCASTLE	35	15	10	10	44	46	-2	55

SINCE NOVEMBER 8, 2021

TOON'S FOX IN THE BOX!

■ FIVE of Wilson's 12 touches in the game were in the box, including his goal (in red) below. He now has five goals in his last five league games.



Double trouble: Almiron enjoys his second GETTY IMAGES

Lampard's Everton no longer running on empty

IT felt fitting that on London Marathon weekend, Everton almost had to crawl over the finish line to see out these three points. Ask Frank Lampard if he cares. His side are not at the stage where they can complain about how games are won. Crossing the line is all that matters. That's no slight on Lampard's side — they were worthy winners. Everton were slow out of the blocks but well in control, and raced past Southampton with two goals in two minutes.

But what will have pleased Lampard most was the last 15 minutes — the fight, resilience and doggedness to survive an aerial bombardment from James Ward-Prowse's set-pieces. Two summer signings have been crucial to that, defensive duo Conor Coady and James Tarkowski, as well as Jordan Pickford, enjoying his best form in an Everton shirt. 'We tried to bring in good people as well as good players,' said Lampard. 'It's a

SOUTHAMPTON	1
EVERTON	2
Lewis Steele	
at St Mary's Stadium	

process on and off the pitch to create a culture that's progressive. We can do a lot better. We should have won that game without needing to have 10 or 15 minutes of biting our nails at the end.'

That will come. But Everton would not have won this game last season. This was just their second away win since August 2021, and the first time they had come from 1-0 down to win away since February 2020. For now, it's time to give Lampard — and the recruitment team — due credit. The 44-year-old has guided his team to a seventh straight game undefeated, the

FRANK IS LOOKING UP

6 EVERTON are now unbeaten in six league games (won two, drawn four). It's their longest unbeaten run in a season since they went seven undefeated in 2017-18.

2 THIS was their second away win of 2022 — they've won two of their last 21 on the road.

best run of his tenure. They have signed leaders to go with their exciting young talents such as Anthony Gordon, who was too ill to start this match. Another good bit of business has been Amadou Onana, the 6ft 4in box-to-box midfielder who supported Neal Maupay with late darts into the penalty area. But Lampard singled out Everton's supporters as the

man of the match here. 'The fans have fought against the train strikes and cost of living crisis to be here,' he said. 'They appreciate seeing the character in the team that they want and deserve.'

As for Southampton, there were boos at full time. That's now 35 points dropped from winning positions since the start of last season — more than any other team — and this young side must improve fast if they are to stay in the division.

SOUTHAMPTON (4-2-2-2): Bazunu 5; Walker-Peters 7, Bella-Kotchop 6, Caleta-Car 6, Larios 6 (Perraud 60min, 6); Ward-Prowse 6, Maitland-Niles 6 (Edozie 67, 6); S Armstrong 6 (Elyounoussi 89), Aribio 6; Adams 6, Mara 5 (A Armstrong 60, 6). **Booked:** A Armstrong. **Scorer:** Aribio 49. **Manager:** Ralph Hasenhuttl 5.

EVERTON (4-3-3): Pickford 7; Coleman 7.5, Tarkowski 7.5, COADY 8, Mykolenko 7; Onana 7.5 (Davies 74, 6), Iwobi 7, Gueye 6.5; Gray 7 (Doucoure 90), Maupay 6.5 (Rondon 89), McNeil 7 (Gordon 74, 6.5).

Booked: Gueye. **Scorers:** Coady 52, McNeil 54. **Manager:** Frank Lampard 8.

Referee: Andre Marriner 6. **Attendance:** 30,510.

ADRIAN KAJUMBA

at Selhurst Park



CRYSTAL PALACE

Edouard 7

1

CHELSEA

Aubameyang 38
Gallagher 90

2

IT WAS the great Brazilian Ronaldo who taught Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang an unforgettable and early lesson about the value of efficiency as a striker.

Chelsea striker Aubameyang said: 'I will always remember when Carlo Ancelotti had a go at him about his fitness and Ronaldo said, "What do you want me to do, run or score goals?" Ancelotti said, "Score goals" and the next time Ronaldo scored twice!'

'That is part of the character and as a striker you need that because you have to be strong mentally.'

Aubameyang's days at AC Milan were on his mind ahead of a Champions League reunion with his first senior club on Wednesday, where he got to witness the likes of Ronaldo up close.

'At that time, the team was really strong,' Aubameyang remembered. 'Ronaldo, Maldini, Nesta. I was very young. That is why I chose to go on loan (to Dijon, Lille and Monaco) for a few years.'

'No, no! I was not demanding Ronaldo's place. I was just trying to improve and looking at him to learn as much as I could. I was just a young kid among all those stars, just playing and training, trying to get as much as I could and pick up all these things in my career.'

'To tell the truth, Ronaldo was a bit fat by then! But he was still the best.'

The tricks of the trade Aubameyang learned from Ronaldo and Co have served him well during his prolific career and were evident again as he opened his Chelsea account at Crystal Palace.

His performance was improved from his first two in Chelsea colours, if not all action, but it is goals that win games and he scored the his side's first at Selhurst Park. Aubameyang was

RONALDO

492.....club games
295.....goals
121.minutes per goal

AUBAMEYANG

610.....club games
311.....goals
148..minutes per goal

The master and his pupil: Ronaldo (left) and Aubameyang EPA/GETTY IMAGES

I learned from the great Ronaldo, reveals Auba

Chelsea striker was at Milan with Brazilian legend

no longer wearing the protective face mask he sported in his first two appearances, an indication that full sharpness is nearer after the terrifying violent robbery at his former home in Barcelona in which he suffered a broken jaw.

So too were some of his under-the-radar contributions but it

was mainly his goal that was the clearest sign.

His new manager Graham Potter was full of praise for Aubameyang, saying: 'He's been working hard as well for us. He's had a difficult summer for different reasons. He's had a quite traumatic experience and the way he has handled himself has been A1.'

It was a regular assessment of Potter's Brighton side that for all their possession and attractive, progressive football what they so often missed was a ruthless finisher to make it all count.

'A 20-goal striker? There were only two of them in the Premier League, and we should sign one for Brighton, on our wage

structure, for less than £20million ... yeah, yeah,' Potter said with the smile of a man well used to hearing the theory.

But Chelsea do have the finances for that calibre of player and Potter has inherited one in Aubameyang.

A proven frontman who has reached the 20-goal mark at club level in seven of the last eight seasons and is among the handful to have done so in the Premier League — twice in his case at Arsenal — in recent times.

Can he do it once again at Chelsea and show his finishing and instincts remain as sharp as ever at 33 years old? That is the challenge and the nature of his first Chelsea goal was encouraging.

In the first half Chelsea enjoyed plenty of the ball in Palace territory and created a couple of decent opportunities though ones that were not on target.

Enter Aubameyang. It was barely an opportunity when Thiago Silva nodded Reece James's pass in his direction. Aubameyang was being closely marshalled by Joel Ward and his run was taking him away from goal. But with minimal fuss he gave the Palace defender a nudge to earn some space, let the ball bounce across him, spun sharply and buried a volley past Vicente Guaita in a blur of expert movement and finishing.

It was something out of nothing and a chance taken clinically without even looking at the goal to cancel out Odsone Edouard's Palace opener and before Conor Gallagher's 90th-minute winner.

It was Aubameyang's main involvement in the game but also a decisive one. Having a knack for making the most of minimal involvement in such fashion can never be a bad thing. Ronaldo would doubtless agree.

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-3-3): Guaita 6; Clyne 6 (Tomkins 44min, 7), Ward 7, Guehi 7, Mitchell 7; Olise 7, Doucoure 7 (Hughes 84), Eze 7.5 (Schlupp 74, 6); Ayew 7, Edouard 7 (Mateta 84), Zaha 6.5.

Scored: Edouard 7.

Booked: Edouard, Vieira.

Manager: Patrick Vieira 7.

CHELSEA (4-2-2-2): Kapa 7; JAMES 8, Fofana 5, Silva 6.5, Chilwell 6; Kovacic 6.5, Jorginho 5.5 (Loftus-Cheek 56, 6); Mount 6.5 (Pulisic 84); Havertz 6 (Gallagher 76); Aubameyang 7.5 (Broja 75, 6), Sterling 7. Scored: Aubameyang 38, Gallagher 90.

Booked: Silva, Mount, Kovacic.

Manager: Graham Potter 8.

Referee: Chris Kavanagh 5.

Attendance: Not provided.

Lage pays price as £100m spend fails to spark Wolves

BRUNO LAGE has become the third manager to lose his job in the Premier League after he was sacked by Wolves yesterday.

Saturday's defeat at West Ham was Wolves' fourth of a campaign in which they have scored just three times in the League, despite owners Fosun backing Lage with £100million in the summer transfer window.

Wolves are in the bottom three and their next fixture is at Chelsea on Saturday. They have been studying possible successors but have not ruled out placing a coach already on the staff, such as Under 21 coach James Collins or his Under 18 counterpart Steve Davis, in charge for Saturday's match.

MailOnline reported yesterday morning that the Portuguese was under significant pressure after winning only one of his past 15 league games across this season and last, and Wolves moved to dismiss him later that day.

WEST HAM

2

WOLVES

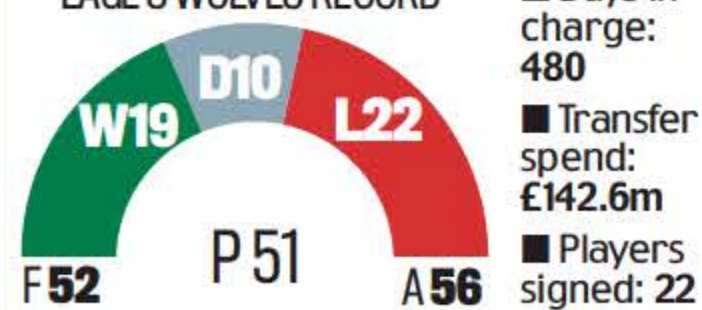
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By TOM COLLOMOSSE and KIERAN GILL at the London Stadium

While Lage has had little luck with injuries — summer signing Sasa Kalajdzic damaged knee ligaments on his debut while fellow striker Raul Jimenez remains sidelined — the form since last spring has been alarming. Pedro Martins, the former Olympiacos coach, is targeting a move to the Premier League. Martins is thought to have links to Jorge Mendes, head of the powerful Gestifute agency who have a strong relationship with Fosun. Both Lage and his predecessor Nuno Espirito Santo are Gestifute clients, as are many of the Wolves squad.

WHERE IT ALL WENT WRONG

LAGE'S WOLVES RECORD



Chairman Jeff Shi said in a statement last night: 'I honestly have no doubts about Bruno's ability, and I'm sure he will succeed elsewhere, however the team's form and performances over the last few months mean that we have no choice but to act.'

Lage was brought to Molineux at the start of last season to replace Nuno, and had Wolves in the race for European football for the first half of the campaign before their form collapsed. He has

tried to bring a more attacking style this season, switching from a back three to a back four and allowing club legend Conor Coady to join Everton on loan. But Wolves have looked toothless for much of the campaign, even though they have top talent like Ruben Neves, Matheus Nunes and Pedro Neto in their squad.

They also brought in former Chelsea forward Diego Costa on a free transfer following the injuries to Kalajdzic and Jimenez. Neto, meanwhile, faces a spell on the sidelines after sustaining an ankle injury at West Ham.

WEST HAM (4-2-3-1): Fabianski 7; Kehrer 7, Dawson 7, Souma 7, Cresswell 7; Soucek 7, Rice 7; BOWEN 7.5, Paqueta 7 (Emerson 74min, 6), Cornet 6.5 (Fomals 34, 7); Scamacca 8 (Antonio 66, 6). Scored: Scamacca 29, Bowen 54. Booked: Rice, Cresswell.

Manager: David Moyes 7.

WOLVES (3-4-2-1): Sa 5; Jonny 5, Neves 5.5, Kilman 5; Semedo 5 (Traore 73, 6), Nunes 5 (Campbell 73, 6), Moutinho 5, Ait-Nouri 5; Neto 5 (Traore 24, 5.5), Podence 5; Guedes 5 (Costa 58, 6). Booked: Neves, Moutinho. Manager: Bruno Lage 5.

Referee: Paul Tierney 6. Attendance: Not provided.

Who's out first in the sack race?

Rodgers and Cooper fight for survival in huge clash of early back-markers

By TOM COLLOMOSSE

BRENDAN RODGERS and Steve Cooper are two of the best British coaches in the business yet both know defeat tonight would leave their positions in great danger.

With Leicester chairman Aiyawatt Srivaddhanaprabha due to attend his first game since the home defeat by Southampton on August 20, Rodgers will be under scrutiny like never before during his three-and-a-half years as manager.

Lose this derby to Nottingham Forest and it will be one point from eight games for the Foxes. It is hard to see how Rodgers survives a run like that in the long term.

In the other dugout, Cooper's circumstances look just as precarious. The Welshman was probably the manager of the season in England last term, as he took over in September when Forest were bottom of the Championship, and led them to promotion via the play-offs.

Yet delivering Forest's first top-flight campaign this century may not buy Cooper time. Seven matches and 22 signings later, his future is uncertain. Owner Evangelos Marinakis has employed six permanent managers since taking control of Forest in 2017, and has already shown a ruthless streak this season.

He hired Carlos Corberan to coach Greek giants Olympiacos — Marinakis's other club — on August 1. On September 18 and after only 11 competitive fixtures, the former Huddersfield manager was sacked. Cooper will have noticed.

'I speak to the owner after most games and conversations have been normal,' said Cooper. 'There's been no change. They probably feel the same as me — some disappointment in the previous few games. We've signed a lot of players and it's a tough challenge to become the team we want to be.'

Cooper and Rodgers were briefly at Liverpool together between 2012-13, when Rodgers was manager and Cooper the Under 18 coach. The pair respect one another and Rodgers understands the task Cooper faces.

'It's always difficult that first year back in the Premier League,' said Rodgers, who led Swansea to the top flight in 2011. 'Steve has done a brilliant job to get them in the Premier League. To then create a cohesive unit and team with so many new faces is a challenge.'

Leicester's owners are measured by nature and chose not to remove Rodgers, who has an eight-figure compensation clause in his contract, after heavy defeats at Brighton and Tottenham before the international

PREVIEW
Monday Night

KING POWER STADIUM, 8pm,
LIVE ON SKY SPORTS MAIN EVENT

break. But patience is not infinite and the hierarchy have been pondering the post-Rodgers future. They admire Brentford boss Thomas Frank, with Sean Dyche and Dean Smith also possible contenders.

Midlands rivals Wolves' sacking of Bruno Lage yesterday could also have a ripple effect.

The atmosphere among Leicester's players has not become as bad as it was in the final days of Claudio Ranieri's tenure, or Claude Puel's. And Rodgers is confident in his ability to turn things around.

'Believe it or not, it's easy (to block out the noise),' he said. 'You learn to regulate it. If you're bottom of the league, you're not going to be flavour of the month. I love working with these players. I believe we will come good and get into a good position.'

'I see these players work and that gives me strength. I also know I'm the best person to lead this team forward and that's something we will do in the coming weeks.'

Where Rodgers has lamented the lack of transfer activity at Leicester, who signed only one outfield player this summer, Cooper's problem is that there has been too much.

A recruitment drive at the City Ground was essential after five loan players did not return, while a further 14 departed either permanently or on loan. The number of new signings has, however, left Cooper and his staff playing catch-up as they try to work out their strongest team in the heat of battle.

Forest have played well in attack at times but looked seriously vulnerable at the back. They were beaten at home in consecutive games by Bournemouth and Fulham despite taking the lead in both.

'The two defeats in the games before the international break were not good but it's part of the challenge and we've got to work hard now to put things right,' he said.

Leicester have the squad to pull them out of trouble and, if Forest's new signings click, they should improve, too. The question now is whether Rodgers and Cooper will be there to see it through.



Pressure building: bosses Rodgers (left) and Cooper REX/PA

PREMIER LEAGUE BOTTOM FIVE...

	PI	Pts
16 Soton	8	7
17 C Palace	7	6
18 Wolves	8	6
19 N FOREST	7	4
20 LEICESTER	7	1

4 FOREST have lost their last four league games. They last suffered five-straight league defeats in a single season in January 2004.

5 NO Premier League side have conceded more goals from set pieces (excluding pens) than Leicester and Forest. All five conceded by Forest have been via corners, a league-high in 2022-23.

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Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
1 Arsenal	8	7	0	1	20	8	12	21
2 Man City	8	6	2	0	29	9	20	20
3 Tottenham	8	5	2	1	19	10	9	17
4 Brighton	7	4	2	1	14	8	6	14
5 Chelsea	7	4	1	2	10	10	0	13
6 Man Utd	7	4	0	3	11	14	-3	12
7 Newcastle	8	2	5	1	12	8	4	11
8 Fulham	8	3	2	3	13	15	-2	11
9 Liverpool	7	2	4	1	18	9	9	10
10 Brentford	8	2	4	2	15	12	3	10
11 Everton	8	2	4	2	7	7	0	10
12 Leeds Utd	7	2	3	2	10	10	0	9
13 Bournemouth	8	2	3	3	6	19	-13	9
14 Aston Villa	8	2	2	4	6	10	-4	8
15 West Ham	8	2	1	5	5	9	-4	7
16 Southampton	8	2	1	5	8	13	-5	7
17 Crystal Palace	7	1	3	3	8	11	-3	6
18 Wolves	8	1	3	4	3	9	-6	6
19 Nottm Forest	7	1	1	5	6	17	-11	4
20 Leicester	7	0	1	6	10	22	-12	1

SATURDAY

ARSENAL 3	TOTTENHAM 1
Partey 20, Jesus 49, Xhaka 67	Kane 31 (pen)
Attendance: 60,278	
BOURNEMOUTH 0	BRENTFORD 0
	Attendance: 10,126
CRYSTAL PALACE 1	CHELSEA 2
Edouard 7	Aubameyang 38, Gallagher 90
Att: Not provided	
FULHAM 1	NEWCASTLE 4
Decordova-Reid 88	Wilson 11, Almiron 33, 57, Longstaff 43
Attendance: 22,913	
LIVERPOOL 3	BRIGHTON 3
Firmino 33, 54, Webster 63 (og)	Trossard 4, 17, 83
Attendance: 53,336	
SOUTHAMPTON 1	EVERTON 2
Aribo 49	Coady 54, McNeil 54
Attendance: 30,510	
WEST HAM 2	WOLVES 0
Scamacca 29, Bowen 54	
Att: Not provided	

YESTERDAY

MAN CITY 6	MAN UTD 3
Foden 8, 44, 72, Haaland 34, 37, 64	Antony 56, Martial 84, 90+1 (pen)
Att: Not provided	
LEEDS 0	ASTON VILLA 0
	Att: 36,582

TONIGHT 8pm, LIVE ON SKY SPORTS

LEICESTER	NOTTM FOREST
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TOP SCORERS

14 Haaland (Man City)
7 Kane (Tottenham)
6 Mitrovic (Fulham)
5 Firmino (Liverpool), Jesus (Arsenal), Foden (Man City), Toney (Brentford), Trossard (Brighton)

MOST ASSISTS

8 De Bruyne (Man City)
4 Silva (Man City), Saka (Arsenal)
3 Firmino, Salah (Liverpool), Jesus, Xhaka (Arsenal), Haaland (Man City), Harrison (Leeds), Iwobi (Everton), Kulusevski, Perisic (Tottenham), Tete (Fulham)

SKY BET CHAMPIONSHIP

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Sheff Utd	11	7	3	1	20	6	14	24
Norwich	11	7	2	2	17	9	8	23
Reading	11	7	0	4	13	15	-2	21
Burnley	11	4	6	1	18	11	7	18
QPR	11	5	3	3	16	12	4	18
Blackburn	11	6	0	5	13	14	-1	18
Watford	11	4	5	2	15	11	4	17
Sunderland	11	4	4	3	16	11	5	16
Luton	11	4	4	3	13	10	3	16
Wigan	11	4	2	5	11	10	1	16
Swansea	11	4	3	4	13	14	-1	15
Rotherham	10	3	5	2	12	8	4	14
Bristol City	11	4	2	5	20	18	2	14
Preston NE	11	2	7	2	3	4	-1	13
Birmingham	11	3	4	4	9	11	-2	13
Millwall	11	4	1	6	12	16	-4	13
Stoke	11	3	3	5	11	15	-4	12
Cardiff	11	3	3	5	8	12	-4	12
Blackpool	11	3	2	6	10	16	-6	11
Hull	11	3	2	6	11	23	-12	11
West Brom	11	1	7	3	17	17	0	10
Middlesbrough	11	2	4	5	13	16	-3	10
Huddersfield	10	2	1	7	10	16	-6	7
Coventry	8	1	3	4	8	13	-5	6

BLACKBURN (0) 2	MILLWALL (0) 1
Dolan 57, Brereton 64	Cooper 75
BLACKPOOL (0) 0	NORWICH (1) 1
	Pukki 21
BRISTOL CITY (0) 1	QPR (2) 2
Wells 61	Johansen 19, Roberts 22
CARDIFF (0) 1	BURNLEY (0) 1
Robinson 90	Tella 48
COVENTRY (1) 1	MIDDLESBROUGH (0) 0
Gyokeres 17	
READING (2) 3	HUDDERSFIELD (0) 1
McIntyre 29, Nicholls 36 (og), Meite 81	Lees 90
ROTHERHAM (0) 0	WIGAN (1) 2
	Keane 12, Naylor 84
SHEFF UTD (0) 1	BIRMINGHAM (0) 1
McBurnie 64	Deeney 70
SUNDERLAND (0) 0	PRESTON (0) 0
WEST BROM (0) 2	SWANSEA (1) 3
Livermore 48, Diangana 65	Sorinola 6, Ntcham 71, Obafemi 89

STOKE (0) 0	WATFORD (1) 4
	Sarr 12, Sema 64
19,905	Davis 78, Bayo 84
HULL (0) 0	LUTON (2) 2
	Jones 6 (og)
	Lansbury 44

SKY BET LEAGUE ONE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Plymouth	11	8	1	2	19	12	7	25
Ipswich	11	7	3	1	22	10	12	24
Sheff Wed	11	7	2	2	21	10	11	23
Portsmouth	10	6	3	1	21	11	10	21
Barnsley	11	6	2	3	17	10	7	20
Bolton	10	6	2	2	13	6	7	20
Peterborough	11	6	0	5	20	12	8	18
Derby	10	5	2	3	11	9	2	17
Accrington	11	4	4	3	14	13	1	16
Cambridge Utd	11	5	1	5	14	18	-4	16
Exeter	11	4	3	4	18	12	6	15
Shrewsbury	11	4	3	4	11	13	-2	15
Lincoln City	10	3	4	3	14	16	-2	13
Charlton	11	2	6	3	15	15	0	12
Fleetwood	10	2	6	2	9	9	0	12
Port Vale	11	3	3	5	10	16	-6	12
Cheltenham	10	3	2	5	10	12	-2	11
Oxford Utd	10	3	2	5	9	11	-2	11
Wycombe	11	3	2	6	13	16	-3	11
MK Dons	10	3	1	6	11	14	-3	10
Bristol Rovers	11	2	3	6	15	22	-7	9
Forest Green	11	2	2	7	10	25	-15	8
Burton Albion	11	2	1	8	14	26	-12	7
Morecambe	11	1	4	6	8	21	-13	7

ACCRINGTON (0) 3	MORECAMBE (0) 1
Coyle 58, Hamilton 81, Leigh 85	Astley 77 (og)
BOLTON (1) 2	LINCOLN CITY (0) 0
Charles 40 (pen), Bodvarsson 84	
BURTON ALB. (1) 3	FOREST GRN. (0) 2
Adeboyejo 6, 82, 90	Brown 52, Wickham 69 (pen)
CAMBRIDGE U(0) 0	DERBY (1) 2
	Collins 45, 83
CHARLTON (0) 1	OXFORD UTD (1) 1
Stockley 55	Browne 11
CHELTHAM(1) 2	SHREWSBURY (0) 0
Long 45, May 46	
EXETER (0) 2	BRISTOL RV. (0) 2
J Brown 72 (pen), Nombi 81	Marquis 62, Loft 90
FLEETWOOD (0) 0	BARNESLEY (0) 1
	Aitchison 90
IPSWICH (1) 3	PORTSMOUTH (1) 2
Harness 25, Ladapo 74, Burrs 80	Bishop 32 (pen), 79 (pen)
MK DONS (0) 2	PETERBORO (2) 3
Harvie 90, Smith 90	Clarke-Harris 3, Poku 36
PORT VALE (0) 0	SHEFF WED (0) 1
	Vaulks 63
WYCOMBE (0) 0	PLYMOUTH (1) 1
	Cosgrove 8 (pen)

SKY BET LEAGUE TWO

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Leyton Orient	11	9	1	1	19	6	13	28
Northampton	11	8	2	1	23	12	11	26
Stevenage	11	8	1	2	14	10	4	25
Bradford	11	6	3	2	18	10	8	21
Salford City	11	6	3	2	16	9	7	21
Barrow	11	7	0	4	15	12	3	21
Mansfield	11	6	2	3	18	12	6	20
Doncaster	11	6	2	3	16	13	3	20
Carlisle	11	4	6	1	13	10	3	18
Swindon	11	4	5	2	13	11	2	17
Tranmere	11	5	1	5	11	9	2	16
Crewe	11	4	4	3	12	11	1	16
Grimsby	11	4	4	3	11	10	1	16
Sutton Utd	11	4	2	5	12	12	0	14
AFC Wimbledon	11	3	3	5	13	16	-3	12
Newport	11	3	2	6	12	15	-3	11
Walsall	11	2	4	5	11	11	0	10
Gillingham	11	2	4	5	3	11	-8	10
Stockport	11	2	3	6	12	16	-4	9
Harrogate T	11	2	2	7	14	17	-3	8
Colchester	11	1	3	7	8	16	-8	6
Crawley Town	11	1	3	7	10	19	-9	6
Hartlepool	11	0	6	5	8	19	-11	6
Rochdale	11	1	2	8	7	18	-11	5

AFC WIMB(0) 2	COLCHESTER (1) 1
Davison 47, 66 (pen)	Appiah 18
CARLISLE (0) 0	CREWE (0) 0
CRAWLEY (0) 1	STEVENAGE (1) 2
Nadesan 47	Roberts 23, Norris 85 (pen)
GILLINGHAM (0) 1	SUTTON UTD (0) 0
MacDonald 90	
HARROGATE (0) 1	BRADFORD (1) 2
Headley 48	Cook 15 (pen), Wright 73
LEY ORIENT (0) 1	NEWPORT (2) 2
Drinan 64	Evans 27, Bogle 26 (pen)
ROCHDALE (1) 1	DONCASTER (1) 2
Quigley 44	Agard 39, Miller 68
SALFORD CITY (1) 1	GRIMSBY (1) 1
Vassell 2	Richardson 29
STOCKPORT (1) 1	WALSALL (0) 1
Madden 27	Williams 88
SWINDON (0) 1	NORTHAMPTON (0) 2
Williams 62	Fox 68, Pinnock 88
TRANMERE (1) 1	BARROW (0) 0
Hawkes 25	
MANSFIELD (0) 2	HARTLEPOOL (0) 2
Lapslie 51, Harbottle 59	Umerah 62, 89

VANARAMA NATIONAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
Wrexham	11	8	2	1	31	9	22	26
Notts County	11	7	3	1	27	11	16	24
Chesterfield	11	7	3	1	22	13	9	24
Boreham Wd	11	6	4	1	18	9	9	22
Bromley	11	6	2	3	17	12	5	20
Solihull Moors	11	5	4	2	25	14	11	19
Woking	11	6	1	4	19	10	9	19
Wealdstone	11	5	4	2	12	9	3	19
York	11	5	3	3	16	10	6	18
Dorking	11	5	1	5	22	25	-3	16
Southend	11	4	3	4	10	9	1	15
Eastleigh	11	4	3	4	13	14	-1	15
Barnet	11	4	2	5	18	22	-4	14
Dag & Red	11	4	2	5	19	26	-7	14
Maidenhead	11	4	1	6	9	13	-4	13
Gateshead	11	2	5	4	14	16	-2	11
Oldham	11	3	2	6	11	19	-8	11
Maldstone Utd	11	3	2	6	13	25	-12	11
Yeovil	11	1	6	4	10	13	-3	9
Aldershot	11	3	0	8	14	19	-5	9
Scunthorpe	11	2	3	6	14	21	-7	9
Torquay	11	2	3	6	7	19	-12	9
Altrincham	11	1	5	5	11	22	-11	8
FC Halifax	11	2	2	7	7	19	-12	8

ALDERSHOT . (1) 1	WEALDSTONE (0) 2
Vincent 7	Browne 66, 76 1,70
BARNET (0) 0	YORK (2) 5
	Kerr 12, Hurst 26
	John-Lewis 48, 71
	Sanders 90 1,63
BOREHAM W (1) 3	MAIDSTONE . (1) 1
Williams 36, Broadbent 63	Deacon 30 1,00
Ndlovu 65	
CHESTERFLD. (0) 1	MAIDENHEAD (1) 2
Williams 90	Arthur 45, N-George 50
	7,5
DORKING. . . . (2) 5	DAG & RED. . . (0) 1
McShane 27, 33	Lincoln 82 (og)
Bowerman 49	
Mekki 54, Seager 58	
FC HALIFAX .(0) 0	WOKING (2) 5
	Daly 9, Spence 17 (og)
	Grego-Cox 74, 78 1,84
GATESHEAD . (0) 1	EASTLEIGH . . (1) 1
Jarvis 74	Hill 20 1,16
NOTTS CO . . . (2) 3	ALTRINCHAM (0) 0
Langstaff 42, 44	Dinanga 47 6,45
Chicksen 60	
OLDHAM. . . . (1) 1	WREXHAM. . . . (0) 0
Fondop-Talom 26	Tozer 85, Mullin 90 (per 9,49
SOLI HULL M. (0) 2	BROMLEY . . . (1) 1
Kelly 90	Alexander 34 1,49
Reid 90	Arthurs 67 5,32
SOUTHEM . . (1) 1	YEOVIL. (0) 0
Hyde 37	
TORQUAY. . . . (1) 1	SCUNTHORPE (0) 0
Martin 4	Beeston 49 2,11

MATT BARLOW

at bet365 Stadium



STOKE

WATFORD

Sarr 12, Sema 64,
Davis 78, Bayo 84

0

4

Bilic gets off to blistering start

FOUR goals, three points and his job secure for now, Slaven Bilic allowed himself to savour a triumphant return to English football and consider what he might achieve as Watford manager.

'Good start, well deserved,' said Bilic, the former West Ham and West Bromwich boss, who seems to be working his way backwards through the alphabet of clubs with an over-inflated sense of where they belong in the grand scheme of things.

At Watford, he is the 16th permanent manager in little more than a decade under the ownership of Gino Pozzo.

The rules are clear enough. Bilic must win instant promotion back to the Premier League. Shape up as if he might fail and his fate will be the same as predecessor Rob Edwards, sacked after just 10 Championship games.

Like the managerial equivalent of a mayfly, the life cycle is accelerated at Watford so it's best to enjoy the good days. Like this one.

'Clean sheet, strikers scoring goals,' said 54-year-old Bilic. 'Stoke is always tough, a team in form, on the up under Alex Neil. Everything was there. Only one game but something to build on.'

'They needed confidence. They needed belief. You can tell them with words but they needed proof on the pitch and after the second goal, they became completely free to enjoy playing football.'

'Our front players and wide players have proper quality so this shouldn't be a fluke. We can copy and paste this. Nobody did something I didn't expect them to do.'

A tilt at promotion, then Slaven? 'Based on this, yes,' he agreed. 'We have potential and a squad



Good to be back: Bilic's joy at Davis' strike REX



who know what it means to go to Stoke or Preston because they were there two years ago.'

Watford took the lead in the 12th minute, a fine cross by Hassane Kamara headed in by Ismaila Sarr, who looked offside on the video replays but there was no

flag, no VAR and the goal stood. Bilic swept his fist through the air in a giant arc, like Shane Warne celebrating a wicket, and the away fans in a corner serenaded the new boss with an ironic chorus of a popular song about getting sacked in the

morning. Curious how managerial instability should become so integral to the identity of football's original family club, once built upon solid sense and the steady influence of Graham Taylor.

Sarr headed another cross from Kamara against a post as Watford

threatened to stretch clear. Stoke goalkeeper Joe Bursik saved the follow-up and pushed another effort by Ken Sema on to the same post, after Aden Flint's mistake.

Stoke displayed more purpose in the second half without creating clear chances. The closest they came was Lewis Baker's free-kick, saved by Daniel Bachmann, a goalkeeper who spent six years at Stoke without breaking into the team.

Bachmann was jeered by the home crowd after his antics in the first half, when he over-reacted to slight contact from Liam Delap and collected a yellow card for wasting time at 1-0.

At the other end, Sema scored an untidy second. Hamza Choudhury, on loan from Leicester, clipped a hopeful pass into a crowded box after Stoke only partially cleared a free-kick.

Keinan Davis stretched out a leg to pull it down but was smothered by Bursik. The ball spilled to Sema, whose first effort was blocked by Ben Wilmot but the second attempt crossed the line, scored from a seated position.

Stoke fell apart and the natives grew restless. Thousands hurried for the exits and those who stayed made their feelings clear as one basic mistake followed another and Watford took advantage.

Davis scored the third, a low shot slammed in from an angle, and two Bilic substitutes linked up for the fourth, Imran Louza's cross converted by Vakoun Bayo at the back post.

'Not good enough in any way shape or form,' fumed Stoke boss Neil, who was at the centre of the first of the Championship's seven managerial changes so far this season when he replaced Michael O'Neill in August.

There will be more in this most cut-throat of competitions. Bilic, at least, should live to fight another day.

STOKE (3-5-2): Bursik 6; Wilmot 5.5, Flint 5, Fox 5; Fosu 5.5, Baker 6, Laurent 6, Smallbone 5, Sterling 6 (Clarke 77min); Delap 6, Gayle 5 (Campbell 72, 5).

Booked: Fosu, Delap. Manager: Alex Neil 5. **WATFORD** (4-2-3-1): Bachmann 6; Gaspar 6, Sierralta 6.5, Kabasele 6, Kamara 7; Choudhury 6.5, Kayembe 7; SARR 8 (Bayo 80), Asprilla 5 (Louza 59, 6), Sema 7.5 (Hungbo 87); Davis 7 (Gosling 87).

Scorers: Sarr 12, Sema 64, Davis 78, Bayo 84. Booked: Bachmann, Asprilla, Sierralta, Choudhury. Manager: Slaven Bilic 7. Referee: Josh Smith 6. Attendance: 19,905.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE ROUND-UP

by ADAM SHERGOLD

WEST BROMWICH ALBION fans turned on Steve Bruce on Saturday and called for him to be sacked after a last-minute 3-2 home defeat by **SWANSEA** left the club languishing in 21st place. Many inside the Hawthorns vented their fury at Bruce after Michael Obafemi's winner, which left Albion with one win from their opening 11 games.

'I don't expect reassurances from the owners. I will get on with the job I have been given,' a dejected Bruce (below) said. 'We need to turn it around and I'm convinced we will. At the moment things are tough. I can understand the fans' frustration since I walked through the door. 'They have been great towards me but you can feel a frustration because of results. Apart from the first 10 games of last season, they have not seen enough wins in two years.'

A thrilling contest saw Matthew Sorinola put Swansea ahead after six minutes, only for Jake Livermore and Grady Diangana



goals to put West Brom on course for victory. Olivier Ntcham levelled for the Welsh side and, after West Brom's Karlhan Grant saw his penalty saved by Steven Benda, Obafemi settled it.

Troy Deeney earned **BIRMINGHAM** a point at Championship leaders **SHEFFIELD UNITED**. The home side looked on course for a fifth successive victory when Oli McBurnie netted his fifth goal in six matches. But Deeney finished from Tahith Chong's cross to extend Blues' unbeaten run to a four games. That allowed **NORWICH** to move within one point of the top after a 1-0 victory at

BLACKPOOL. Teemu Pukki scored the winner in the first half to make it four goals in four games.

READING continue their positive start to the season and consigned new **HUDDERSFIELD** manager Mark Fotheringham to defeat in his first match.

Tom McIntyre headed home then Huddersfield goalkeeper Lee Nicholls diverted Jeff Hendricks' cross into his own net. Yakou Meite's late goal sealed it, with Tom Lees grabbing a consolation in added time. Bottom club **COVENTRY** picked up their first Championship win of the season as Viktor Gyokeres settled their meeting with fellow strugglers **MIDDLESBROUGH**.



Fans turn on Bruce as Albion throw it away

In League One, Paul Warne got off to a winning start as **DERBY** manager as they beat **CAMBRIDGE** 2-0 on the road with two goals from James Collins.

'It's a good start but that's all it is,' said Warne, who left Rotherham to take on the challenge of guiding Derby back into the second tier. 'Every game we set up to win. Draws are OK but not ideal.'

IPSWICH beat **PORTSMOUTH** 3-2 in a pulsating battle of the promotion hopefuls. Portsmouth went into the game unbeaten but goals by old boy Marcus Harness, Freddie Ladapo and Wes Burns gave Ipswich the points after Colby Bishop had twice equalised from the penalty spot. **PLYMOUTH** remain top thanks to an eighth-minute penalty from Sam Cosgrove (left) at **WYCOMBE**.

In League Two, leaders **LEYTON ORIENT** saw their unbeaten start ended in a 2-1 home loss to **NEWPORT**. They had won nine out of 10 league games but were stunned by first-half goals from Will Evans and Omar Bogle. Aaron Drinan pulled one back but Orient could not find an equaliser.

Ian LADYMAN

twitter @Ian_Ladyman_DM



STEVE Cooper's first notable success as a manager was winning the Under 17 World Cup with England in 2017.

The tournament was in India and not logistically easy, but over a month Cooper steered 21 boys to a highly significant age-group triumph.

Talk now to some of those players — men like Phil Foden and Jadon Sancho — about Cooper and they will speak of his coaching, but first his ability to unite a group, to steer a disparate squad of players uniformly along one path.

Many of those players stayed close. Some — such as Conor Gallagher, Rhian Brewster and Marc Guehi — joined Cooper at Swansea City on loan. There's an enduring bond.

Cooper is now the manager of Nottingham Forest and things are different. The Welshman joined Forest last September with the club bottom of the Championship table and took them to the Premier League and the last eight of the FA Cup. It was a thrilling ride and those who were part of it talk in simple terms of how he did it.

'It was about unity,' midfielder Ryan Yates told me back in August. 'He brought everybody together. None of my managers had done that here before.'

At the start, Cooper met with members of Brian Clough's great teams. It wasn't a publicity thing. He wanted to know what Forest meant. He wanted to learn a

Sad that Forest's shopping spree may cost Cooper

little of how Clough did it. He wanted to steal a little bit of that and, in his own way, he did.

Of the squad that took Forest up for the first time in 24 years, nine players appeared in more than 38 league games. Cooper's astonishing success was built around a consistent spine, a group of like-minded men. It had been exactly the same at Swansea.

And now, in the Premier League, things have changed. Forest's squad had to be overhauled. There were too many loan players. Others were out of contract.

Forest's response — driven in part by owner Evangelos Marinakis and his son Miltiadis — has been to buy and keep buying. During the summer months, it seemed ambitious. Now it just seems self-defeating.

Forest have signed 22 players at a cost of £150million. The team who face Leicester at the King Power Stadium

tonight will feature three — maybe four — of the team who won last May's play-off final. How Cooper is supposed to make that work is hard to fathom.

He has remained publicly supportive of the club's policy but what alternative does he have? To say otherwise would bring him a heap of publicity a quiet, reserved man does not need.

But no manager would wish to manage under these circumstances in Europe's most competitive league.

Coaches — whatever their respective strengths — always need a core group on whom they can rely. Cooper is still trying to find out who should be in his. It is the equivalent of starting pre-season in September rather than July.

The 42-year-old has done what he can to maintain some consistency. Yates, an academy product, is vice-captain. Joe Worrall, a Nottingham boy, is captain.

But Forest's squad looks like it has been put together in a hurry simply because it has. Many of the foundations and principles that took Forest places last season are now under threat.

Cooper's club skipper last season, for example, was Lewis Grabban, a 33-year-old forward who didn't always play. But the common purpose then was such that he remained invested and was able to come off the bench and score a goal that beat Arsenal in the FA Cup. These are the little things that help a team tick over and succeed.

Forest — on a run of four successive league defeats — do not look like a cohesive team now. How can they?

And the loudest noise is talk of Cooper's future. They say they may sack Forest's miracle man.

How predictable. How reactionary. How very sad.

Ian.Ladyman@dailymail.co.uk



Sitting it out: Alexander-Arnold

GETTY IMAGES

What Gareth can't say about Trent...

THERE is no more boring debate than the one about Liverpool's Trent Alexander-Arnold and England.

Gareth Southgate doesn't pick him because he isn't as defensively sound as the alternatives. Southgate cannot say this for fear of the headlines that would follow, but it's the truth. So in order for the England manager to select the Liverpool player, he would have to tear up a system he believes in and build a new one to accommodate him. The World Cup is 48 days away, so this won't happen. Nor should it.

NOW we are told players want rid of VAR, but the truth is more simple. What they really want gone are decisions they don't benefit from.

THE north London derby was deservedly won by Arsenal and they have one clear advantage over Tottenham. Under Mikel Arteta (right), Arsenal are in the early stages of a long-term project. Tottenham? Coach Antonio Conte never stays anywhere longer than two or three seasons, so it's harder to say the same.



WERE it not for the Nations League, England's World Cup preparations would have comprised a couple of lame friendlies at Wembley. The chances are Gareth Southgate's team would have won them, just as they beat Peru before the 2014 World Cup and Nigeria and Costa Rica prior to the last one. Those games tell you nothing. Players coast through them trying not to get injured. Last week's games against Italy and Germany were different. They were competitive and did tell us something, even if we didn't like it. Whatever happens in Qatar, the players who featured over the last 10 days will have learned something and be better for the experience. It's a good competition.



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THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS

Mail Puzzles

THE BEST BRAIN TEASERS EVERY DAY!

SUDOKU FILL in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 3x3 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9. **SOLUTIONS TOMORROW**

4			8				2	
	5							1
				2				
6								
		2		9				8
		8		3			9	6
1			4			7		
	4		2		6			9
	2		5			3		

Difficulty rating ★★★★★

	9		6	4				
	6	2				1		
			7	3				
				6				9
3					9	8	1	
5								7
2	5							
		7			8	2	9	
		1		5	3	6		

Difficulty rating ★★★★★

PRIZE SUDOKU

7				1				4
		6		4		3		
		2	9	8	3	1		
5	1	7			6			
	8				9			
	2						8	3
						4		
8	7						5	2
			7	9	5			1

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£500**

REVEAL the three shaded squares for your chance to win £500. **HOW TO ENTER:** Call 0901 292 5009 and leave today's three-number answer (reading left to right) and your details. Or text **SUDOKU** to 65700 with your answer and name. Texts and calls cost £1 plus standard network charges. One weekly winner chosen from all correct entries received between 00.01 Monday and 23.59 Friday. Answers change daily at 00.01. UK residents aged 18+, excl NI. Full terms apply, see Page 52.

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST-SELLING NEWSPAPER ON YOUR DEVICE

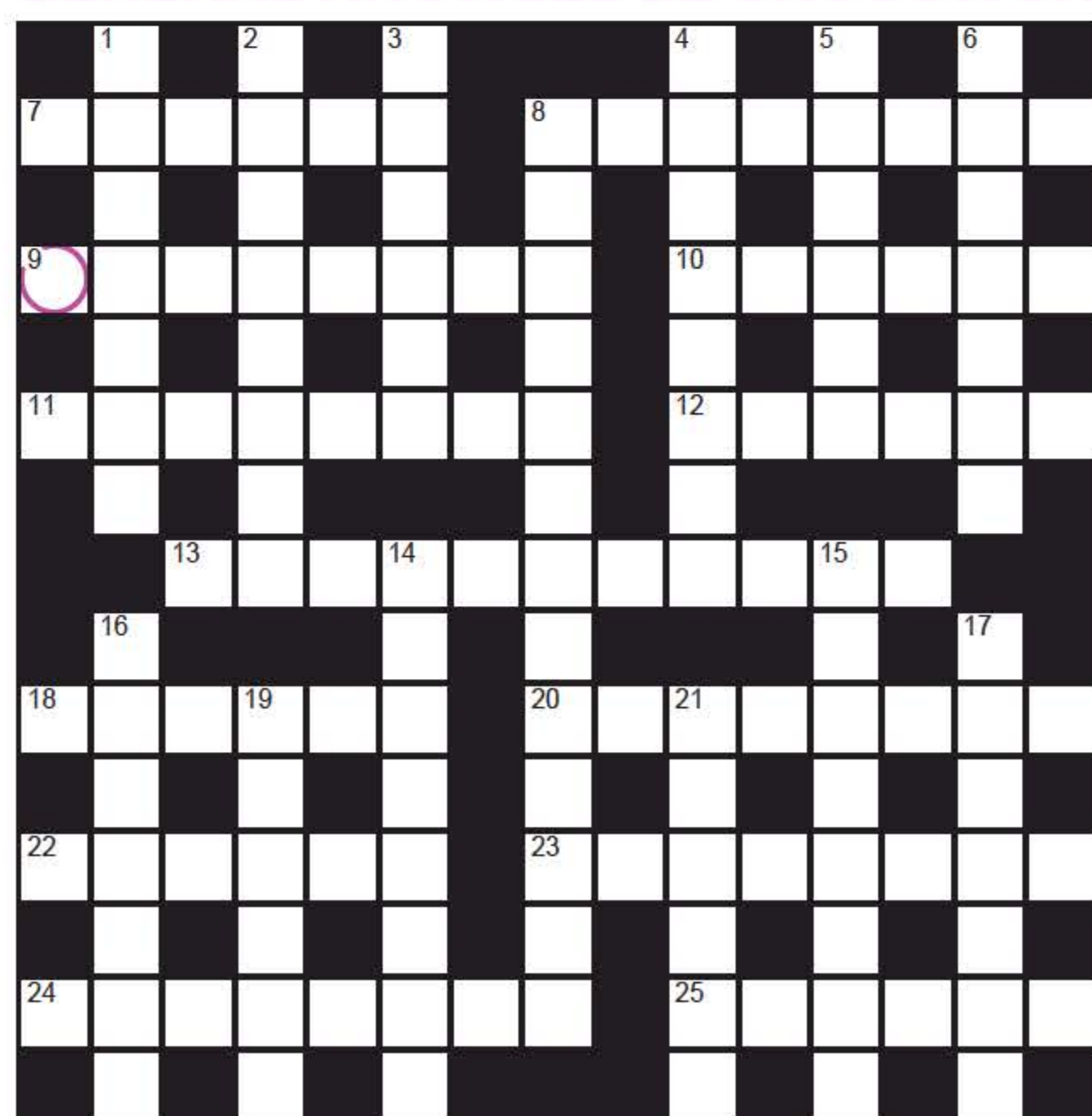
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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD



PLAY our accumulator game! Every day this week, solve the crossword to find the letter in the pink circle. On Friday, we'll provide instructions to submit your five-letter word for your chance to win a luxury Cross pen. UK residents aged 18+, excl NI. Terms apply. Entries cost 50p.

**WRITE YOUR LETTERS
IN THESE SQUARES**

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri

WIN A LUXURY CROSS PEN

SEE
BELOW

ACROSS

- 7 A large, edible yellow-flowered plant of the parsley family (6)
- 8 Market town in southern Lincolnshire that contains a statue to physicist Isaac Newton (8)
- 9 SS ____, ocean liner that was withdrawn from service by P&O in 1997 (8)
- 10 Les, English comedian who guest-hosted Countdown in August 2022 (6)
- 11 A runway without a normal terminal or other passenger facilities (8)
- 12 Not transparent or hard to understand (6)
- 13 A rapid or irregular heartbeat due to agitation, exertion or illness (11)
- 18 Libyan city where the Allies surrendered to German general Erwin Rommel in 1942 (6)
- 20 Informal term for a mean or miserly person (8)
- 22 Dave, English stand-up comedian born in 1971, who created Googlewhack Adventures (6)
- 23 Ruminant animal whose species include the nilgai and blackbuck (8)
- 24 City in northern France noted for its Gothic Sainte-Pierre cathedral (8)
- 25 Paul, novelist and essayist whose works include The New York Trilogy (6)

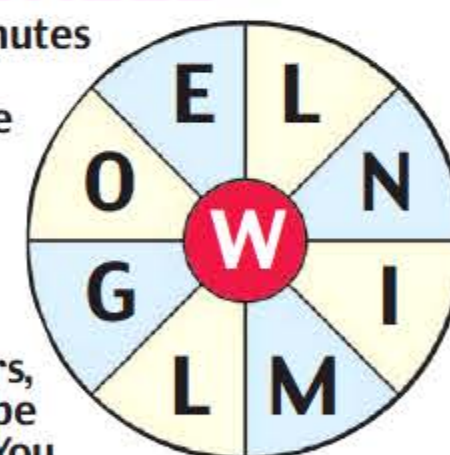
DOWN

- 1 European country that includes the cities of Iasi and Timisoara (7)
- 2 Hector, pirate played by Geoffrey Rush in the Pirates Of The Caribbean film series (8)
- 3 A mischievous or troublesome child (6)
- 4 A low-growing plant of the pink family with small white flowers (8)
- 5 A group of lines forming a basic metrical unit in a poem (6)
- 6 ____, Evans, English actor who played Corey Brent in Coronation Street (7)
- 8 Expression meaning 'to resort to an inadequate remedy in desperation' (5,2,6)
- 14 Kitty, woman who married the 1st Duke of Wellington in Dublin in 1806 (8)
- 15 To be far superior to (8)
- 16 ____, Bogey March, one often whistled and featuring in 1957 film The Bridge On The River Kwai (7)
- 17 Nickname of Newcastle United FC (7)
- 19 A commotion or noisy disturbance (6)
- 21 ____, City, home of the superhero Batman (6)

SOLUTION TOMORROW

WORD WHEEL

YOU have ten minutes to find as many words as possible using the letters in the wheel. Each word must use the hub letter and at least three others, and letters may be used only once. You can't use plurals, foreign words or proper nouns. Verbs ending in 's' permitted. Clue for today's nine-letter word: Woman mooing is relaxing. **RATING:** 8 words, average; 12, good; 16, very good; 18 or more, excellent. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**



SUDOKU X

		4			
					1
3				6	
				5	
					3

PUT 1-6 once in each row, column, diagonal (highlighted to form an X) and horizontal 3x2 box (ruled). **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

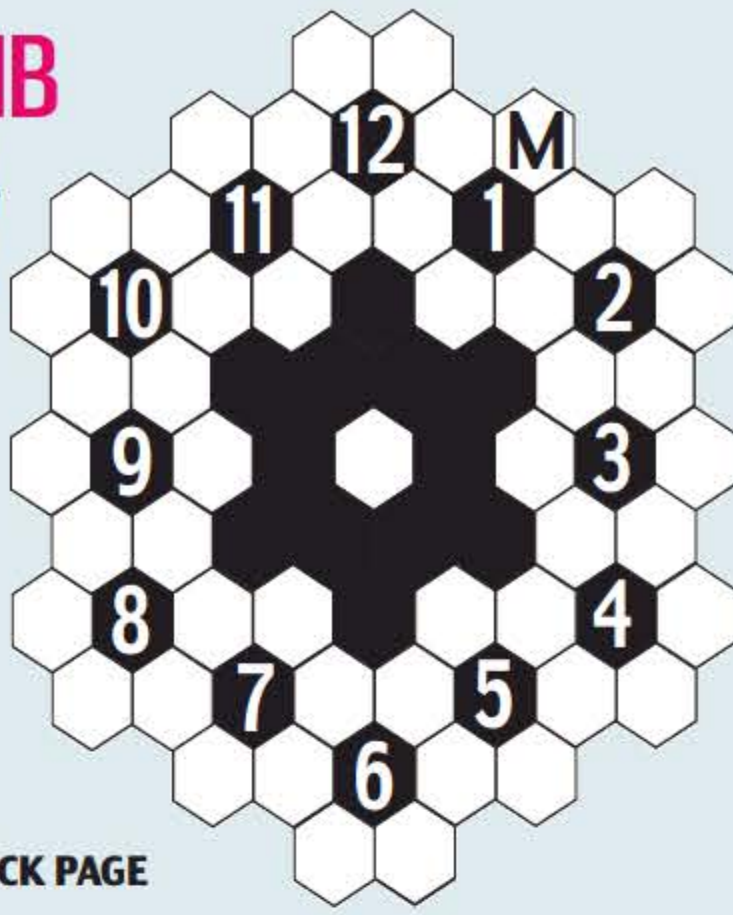
Mail Puzzles

HONEYCOMB

ALL the solutions read clockwise around their numbers. The solution to clue number 1 starts from the given letter.

- Humble
- Empire
- Agile
- Keg
- Task
- Restricted
- Labourer
- Cauldron
- Fringe
- Caches
- Go back on
- Makes law

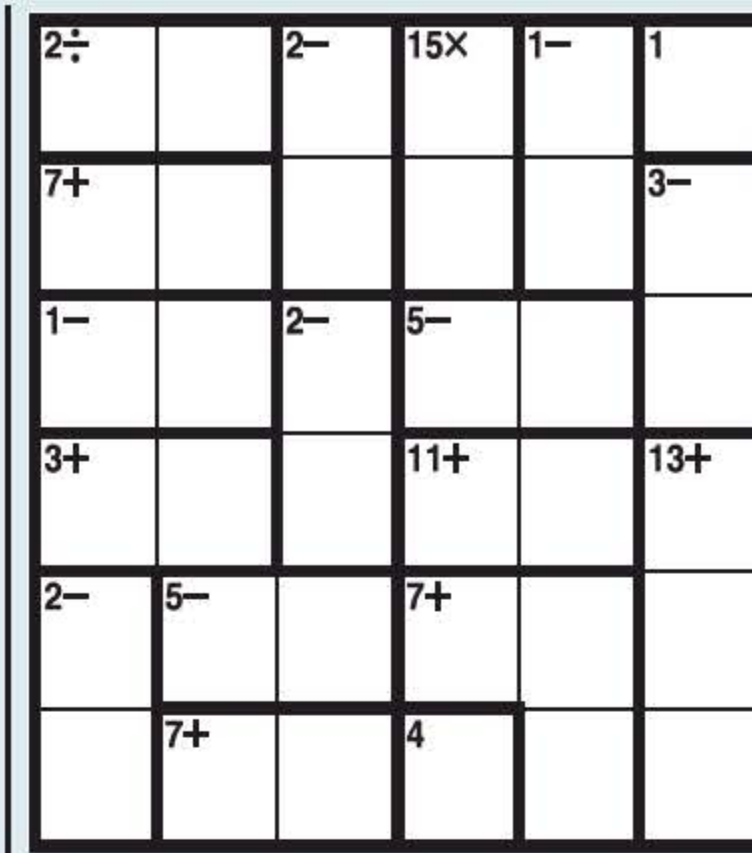
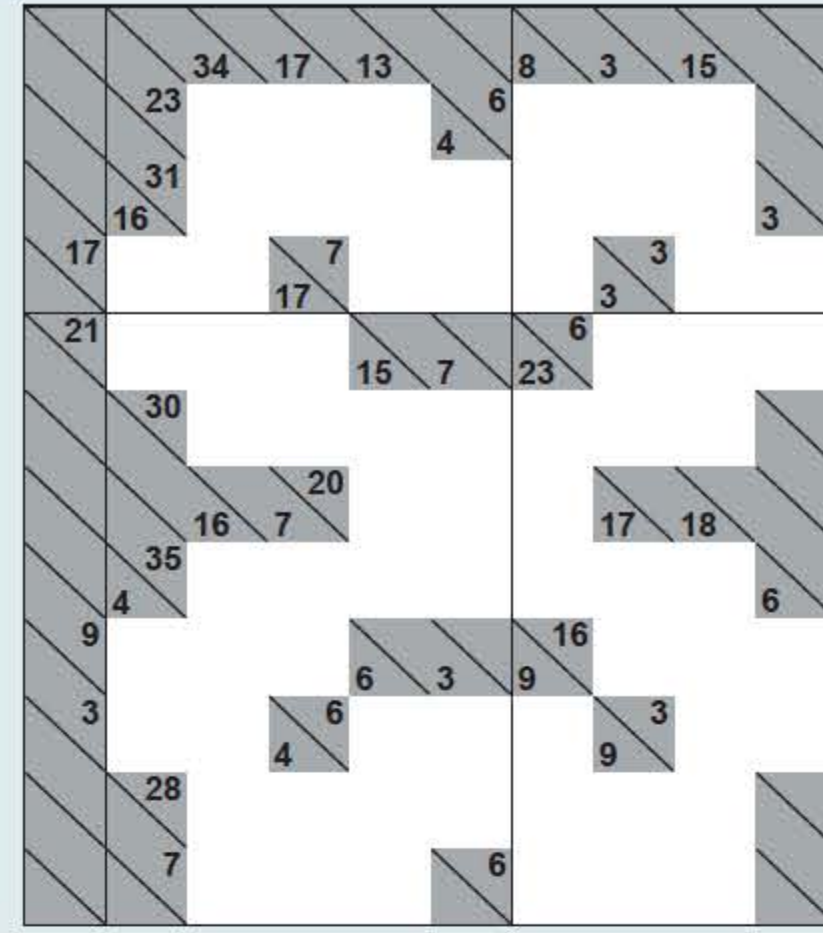
SOLUTION: PULLOUT BACK PAGE



KAKURO

FILL in the blank squares of the grid using only the numbers 1 to 9, without repeating any number in any line of blank squares. The lines must be filled in with numbers which add up to the total in the shaded box at the top or beginning of each line. A number in the bottom half of a shaded box gives a downwards total; in the top half, it's a horizontal total.

SOLUTION TOMORROW



MASTERQUIZ

- What is a sweetsop?
- Which British publisher and humanitarian co-founded the Left Book Club?
- In which upper Midwest U.S. state is the city of Fargo?
- The Michelin Guide recently awarded its first stars to a number of restaurants in which country?

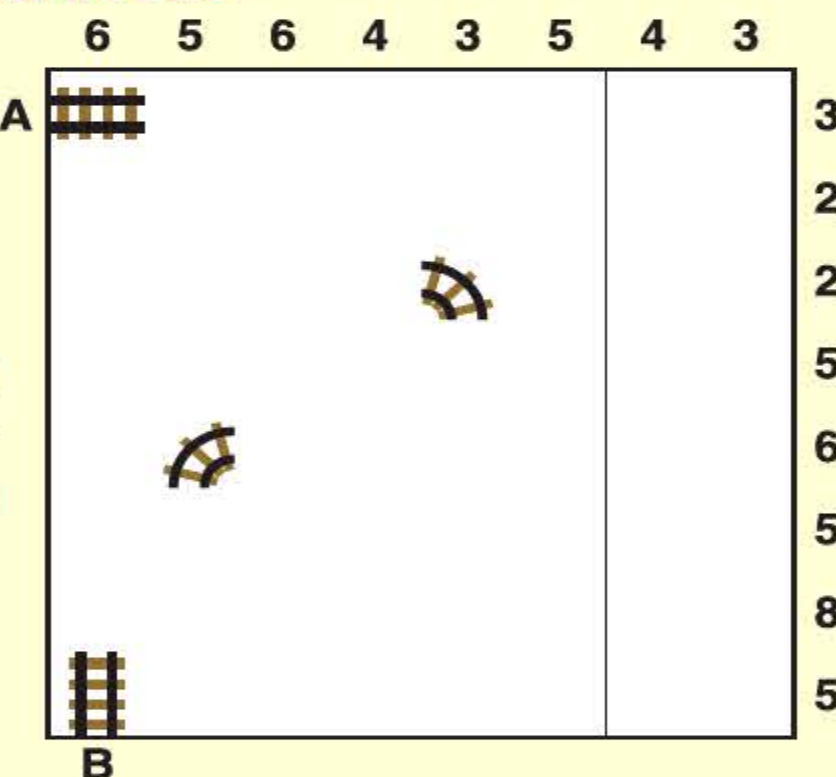
- Which U.S. physicist is credited with creating and building the world's first liquid-fuelled rocket?
- The disease pellagra is caused by a deficiency of which form of vitamin B?

SOLUTION: PULLOUT BACK PAGE

TRAIN TRACKS

LAY tracks to enable the train to travel from village A to village B. The numbers indicate how many sections of rail go in each row and column. There are only straight rails and curved rails. The track cannot cross itself.

SOLUTION TOMORROW



MINDBENDER

- If Erica gives Tomasz three of her bonbons, they will have the same number of sweets each. If Tomasz gives three bonbons to Erica, then he will have a fifth of the number that Erica has. How many bonbons have they got between them?
- What connects cottage, humble and pork?

- Which former country might be on a GUN ARRAY HIATUS?
- Which is the odd one out: Nicholas Nickleby, Adam Bede, Silas Marner, Daniel Deronda?
- Using the chemical symbols, which Suffolk town can be made from iodine, phosphorus, sulphur, tungsten, iodine, carbon and hydrogen?

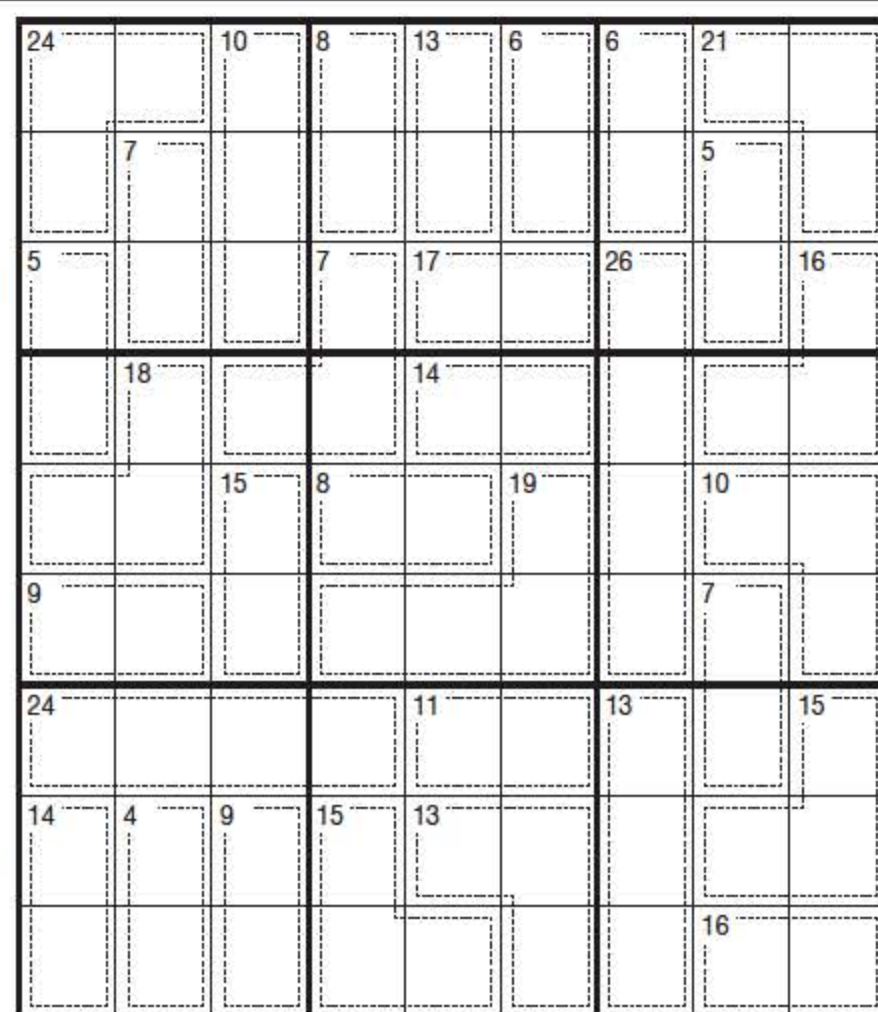
SOLUTION: PULLOUT BACK PAGE

KILLER SUDOKU

FILL in squares in the grid so each row, column and each 3x3 square contains all digits from 1 to 9. Each set of cells joined by dotted lines must add up to the number in the top-left corner. Numbers can't be repeated within each set of cells.

SOLUTION TOMORROW

NEED A CLUE? Call 0901 293 6238 or text KILLER to 65700 and receive four clues to today's puzzle. Calls and texts cost £1 plus your standard network charges. Today's clues available between 00.01 today and 23.30 only.



PITCHERWITS™



1a. Glad group to be one of the Lillies? (4,6)



11a. Chalkless condition from which to start again? (1,5,5)



1d. Swapping within a former alteration? (2,8)



6d. Rough border that's kind of decked with glee (6-4)



9a. Tracker plan thrown out by Manhattan breather? (7,4)



16a. Leo to address problem of rider being in pain (6,4)



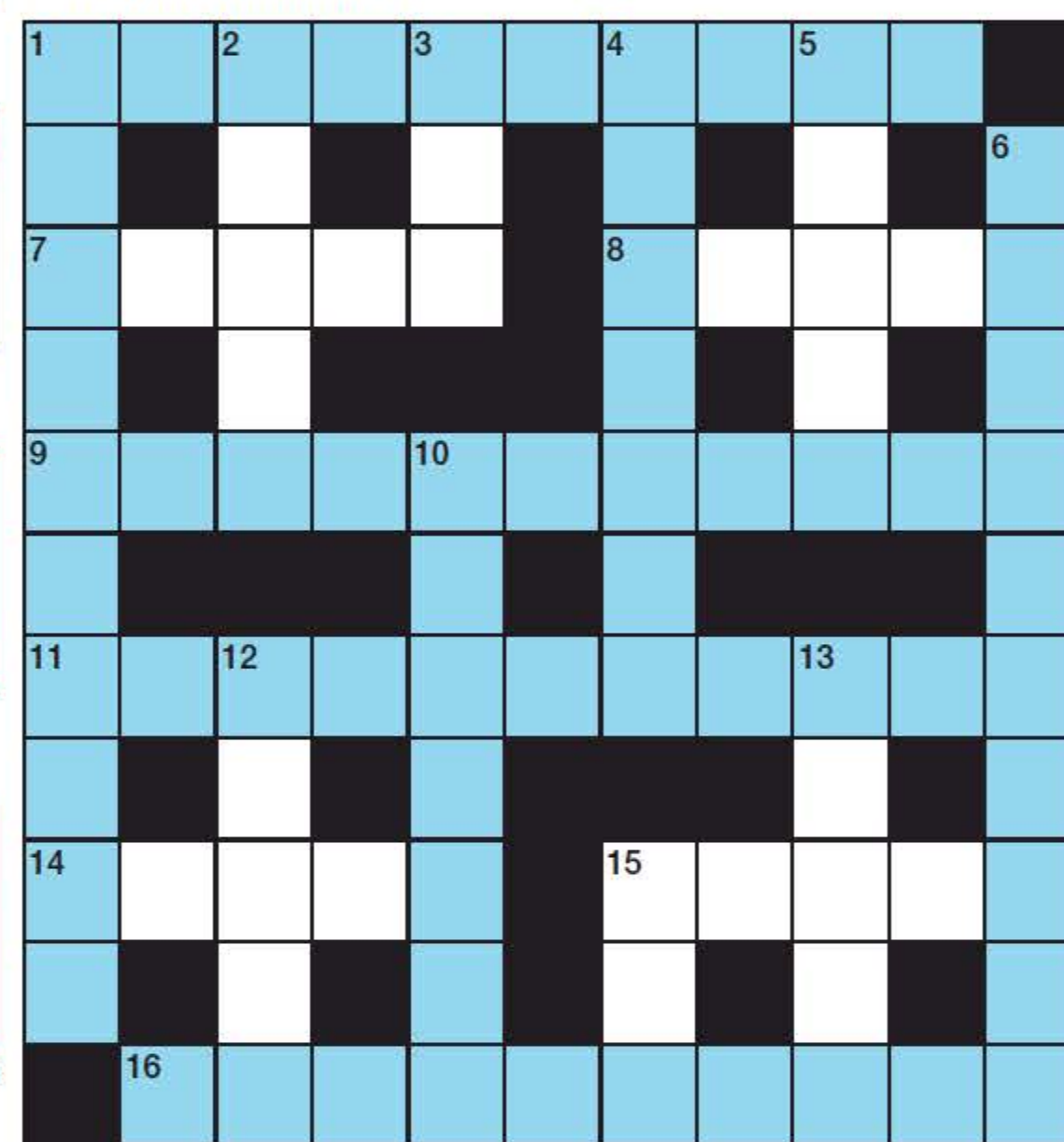
4d. Dampens down the loud flumes? Crackers! (7)



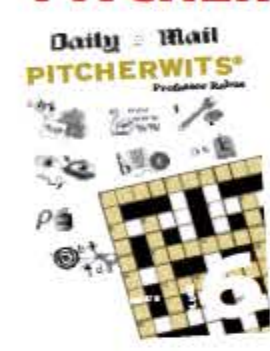
10d. Told off (and cooked?) (7)

PIT your wits against Pitcherwits – the exciting puzzle where some of the answers are in pictures! The solutions to the visual clues fit into the shaded spaces on the grid.

SOLUTION TOMORROW



PITCHERWITS BOOK



TO ORDER Daily Mail Pitcherwits Vol 6 by Professor Rebus for £6.29, go to mailshop.co.uk/books or call 020 3308 9193. Free p&p on orders over £20.

ACROSS

- Picture Clue
- Widen out into a Northumbrian king (5)
- Strong point to keep sweetheart (5)
- Picture Clue
- Picture Clue

- Content of Jungian theories that is massive (5)
- Totted up 500? Dead silly! (5)
- Picture Clue

DOWN

- Picture Clue

- A wino transformed into a statesman! (5)
- Marsh that can be a bit offensive (3)
- Picture Clue
- Insect stage from Etna, say? (5)

- Picture Clue
- Picture Clue
- Am all upset at South American creature (5)
- Fraud I object, in part, to being sound (5)
- You exist in Q S, say (3)

FRIDAY'S SOLUTION: ACROSS: 1 Swing around. 5 Mac. 7 Ire. 8 Hearken. 10 Chancel. 11 Chicago. 14 Age. 15 Mug. 16 Out and about. DOWN: 1 Some time ago. 2 Gala. 3 Rick. 4 Deep insight. 6 Choc ice. 7 In bloom. 9 Runic. 12 Icon. 13 Aria.

MAILWORD

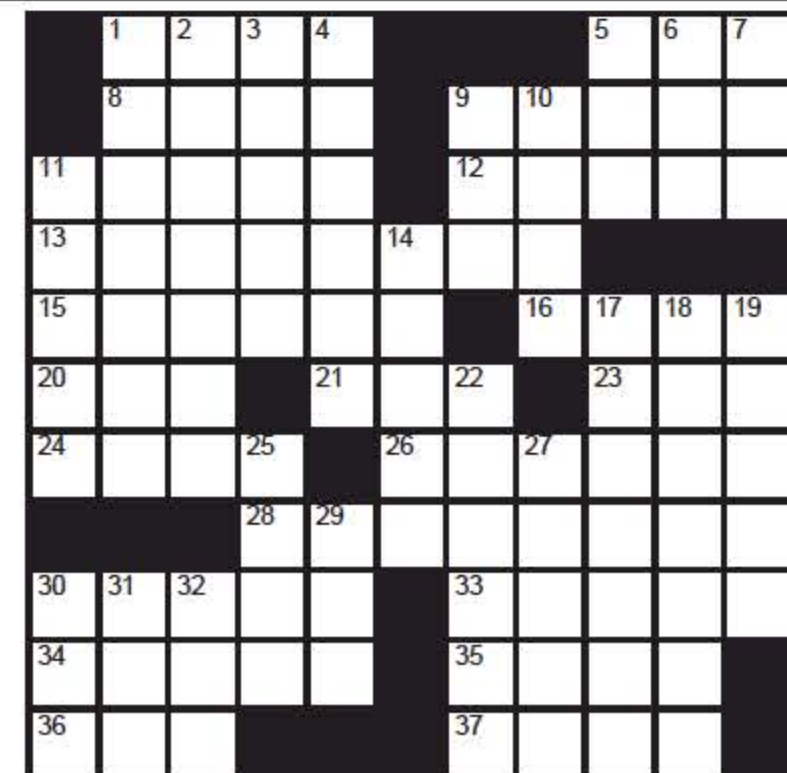
ACROSS

- Small vegetables
- A soft bread bun
- Abbey recess
- Be of help
- Banal
- Peter Pan character
- Put together
- Noisy sleeper
- Routine
- Tease
- Medic, informally
- Postman ---, children's TV character
- Hastened
- Apparition
- Renounce
- Water slide

- Colourless liquid
- Indian currency
- At any time
- Positive response
- Smaller amount

DOWN

- Edible root
- Incident
- Daisy, e.g.
- Looked
- Embargo
- Help
- Work
- Pointed implement
- Swerve
- Chores
- Colour
- Narcotics



- Rags
- Upper atmosphere
- Type of yarn
- Appointment

- Tropical plant
- Buzzing insect
- Weep
- Shade
- Good times

SOLUTION TOMORROW

QUICK QUIZ

- Which continent is the mango native to?
- Going Underground was the first UK No. 1 single by which band?
- Which U.S. actress won the 2022 Emmy for Lead Actress in a Comedy Series?
- Which sport was invented in 1891 by Canadian teacher James Naismith?
- In which activity do participants use GPS to track down hidden containers containing small trading items?

SOLUTION: PULLOUT BACK PAGE

KENKEN

EACH row and column should contain 1 to 6 without repeats. Numbers in cages must combine to produce the target number shown at start of that cage using, in any order, the mathematical sign given. Single-box cages can be filled with the number given.

SOLUTION TOMORROW

	V	S	A	
P				S
A				E
L				D
	E	K	C	

ACTUATING NINE TO FIVE

FIT the scrambled letters of the given word into the grid to form six five-letter words across and down.

SOLUTION TOMORROW

WORLD'S SMALLEST, HARDEST CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. State of reverie (4)
4. Three-toed sloth (2)
5. Parliamentary vote (2)
6. Noodle variety (4)

DOWN

1. Podium (4)
2. Social and cultural organisation (abbr) (2)
3. Volcanic mud (4)
5. Blood group (2)

SOLUTION TOMORROW

1	2		3
4			
		5	
6			

CROSS NUMBER

THERE MAY BE MORE THAN ONE SOLUTION

				11
			2	29
1				5
		9		30
	1			5
17	19	21	12	21

Today's challenge time: 5 mins 14 secs
Your working time: mins secs

FILL each square with a number, 1 to 9. Horizontal squares add up to totals on right. Vertical squares add up to totals on bottom. Diagonal squares through centre add up to totals in top and bottom right.

SOLUTION TOMORROW

CODEWORD

EACH number in our Codeword grid represents a different letter of the alphabet. Today 9 represents C, so fill in C every time the figure 9 appears. You have two letters in the control grid to start you off. Enter them in the appropriate squares in the main grid, then use your knowledge of words to work out which letters should go in the missing squares. **SOLUTION TOMORROW**

COMPLETE Codeword to reveal the word in the shaded boxes.

HOW TO ENTER: Call 0901 293 6232 and leave your answer and your details or text 65700 with the word CODE, your answer and then your name. Texts and calls cost £1 plus standard network charges. One weekly winner chosen from all correct daily entries received between 00.01 Monday and 23.59 Saturday. Answers change daily at 00.01. UK residents aged 18+, excl NI. Terms apply, see Page 52.

1		2		3				4		4		4		1		1	14
4	5	6	7	1	8		4	9	7	10	11	9				2	15
4		12		13		14		1		11		11				3	16
1	3	15	16	2	17	1		17	7	18	11	18				4	17
6		2		17		13		1		7		4				5	18
8	11	4	12		4	19	1	20	4							6	19
12		12		7		1		4		1		4				7	20
			4	3	7	8	12		18	17	1	19				8	21
6		19		20		21		4		12		1				9	22
15	8	1	22	1		7	23	16	1	8	7	18				10	23
4		11		17		17		7		7		18				11	24
7	24	24	11	25	13		26	7	4	4	7	8				12	25
12		4		2				15		4		7				13	26

Mail Puzzles

BRIDGE MASTERCLASS

♠ 8 2
♥ 9 3
♦ A K Q J 10 6
♣ A 8 4

N



S

♠ A K J 10 7 5 4
♥ 6 5 2
♦ 7 4
♣ 7

YOU are South, declarer in 4♠. West leads the ♣K, which you win in dummy. Plan the play.

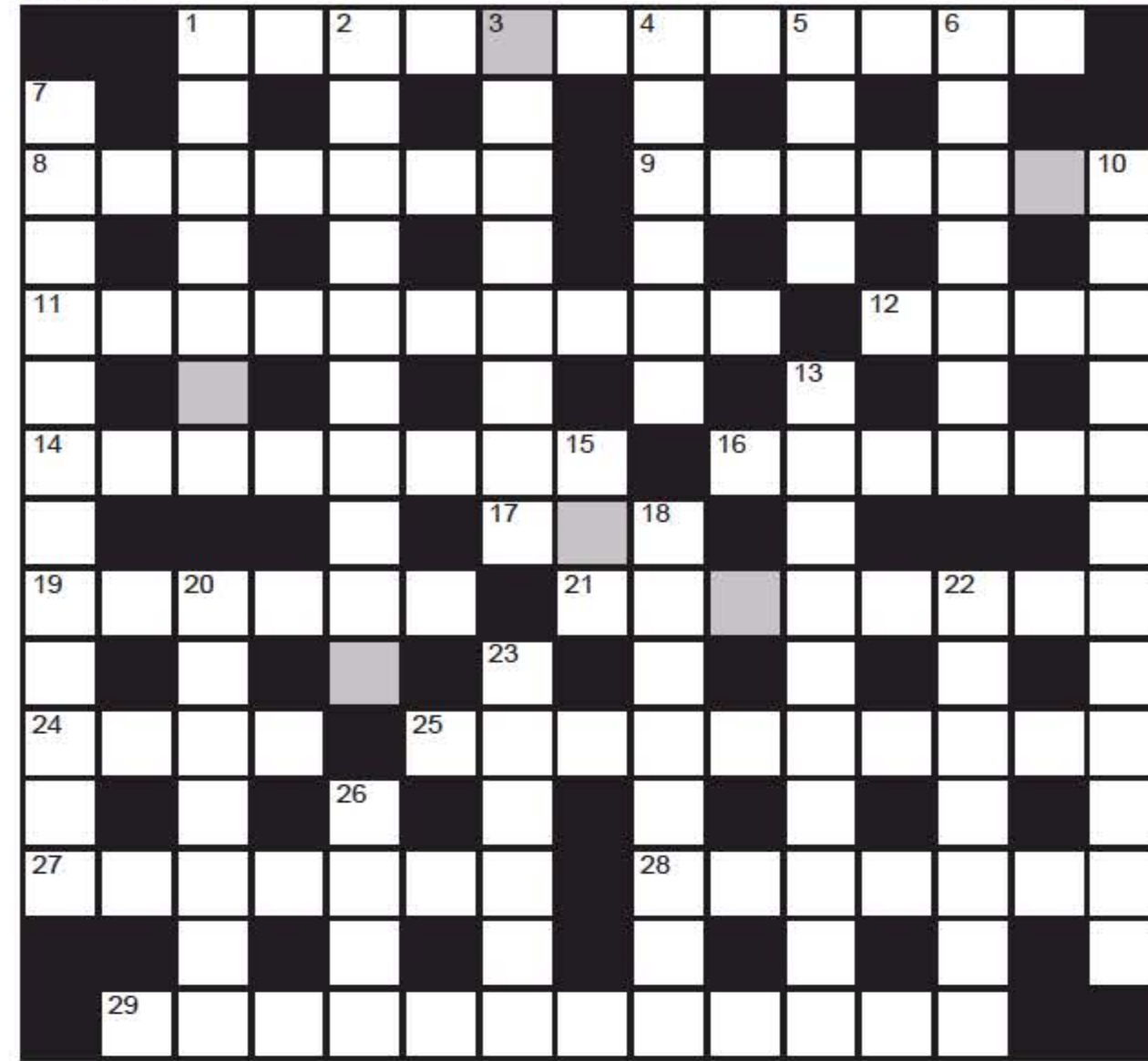
LEAD a low trump and finesse the ♠J. This is a safety play against the strong possibility of a 3-1 trump break. If you cash the ♠AK and the queen doesn't drop, either defender will be able to ruff in when you try to run dummy's diamonds, then cash three hearts.

If East started with the ♠Qxxx, you will see it on the first round when your ♠J wins, and you can afford one diamond to return to dummy to repeat the finesse. If East is void in trumps, you will see that also. It's best to let West's ♠Q win while he can't damage you with a heart switch. The same applies if either defender started with ♠Qxx. Safety first is a good motto.

PETER DONOVAN

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

No 16,937



FOR your chance to win, solve the crossword to reveal the word reading down the shaded boxes. **HOW TO ENTER:** Call 0901 293 6233 and leave today's answer and your details, or TEXT 65700 with the word CRYPTIC, your answer and your name. Texts and calls cost £1 plus standard network charges. Or enter by post by sending completed crossword to Daily Mail Prize Crossword 16,937, PO Box 28, Colchester, Essex CO2 8GF. Please include your name and address. One weekly winner chosen from all correct daily entries received between 00.01 Monday and 23.59 Friday. Postal entries must be date-stamped no later than the following day to qualify. Calls/texts must be received by 23.59; answers change at 00.01. UK residents aged 18+, excl NI. Terms apply, see Page 52.

WIN
£500

ACROSS

- 1 It decreases annoying errors and upsets (7,5)
- 8 Troops possibly fly such a spacecraft (7)
- 9 Bloke found in idiot's wardrobe (7)
- 11 Fluid matter does for parasitic worms (10)
- 12 Arab leader initially explored Russian space station (4)
- 14 Liberal sailor and German colonist (8)
- 16 Group of employees accepting second agreement (6)
- 17 Several periods are put back (3)
- 19 Passing river Mike is probing (6)
- 21 Cynthia arranged golf as well as sailing (8)
- 24 Distinctive air in aquaria at regular intervals (4)
- 25 Lead public relations team backing stance (10)
- 27 'Free time' rule is broken by European (7)
- 28 Leave a group of musicians performing (7)
- 29 A Greek fruit's transformed performer on edge (6,6)

DOWN

- 1 Present a uniform picture (7)
- 2 Cultivate South Island without using spades? That's weird (10)
- 3 Part of Paris university tender covers German city (8)
- 4 Criminal enterprise, one of at least two in court (6)
- 5 Origin of heartless automaton (4)
- 6 Plots seem silly after school (7)
- 7 Time to spread a lotion over fist, having fought thus? (5,3,4)
- 10 Early cabbages bound to appear on parts of course (6,6)
- 13 Cast hesitant about American fan (10)
- 15 Go and score in rugby (3)
- 18 Ant eater, occasionally macabre, very black on the outside (8)
- 20 Sort of swallow one cocktail (7)
- 22 Tidy place for monks? (2,5)
- 23 French cheeses said to produce wind (6)
- 26 Expert's posh wig is upside down (4)

NEED A CLUE? Text TIP to 65700 to receive FOUR answers to today's crossword, or call 0901 293 6236. Texts and calls cost £1 plus standard network charges. Today's clues available between 00.01 today and 23.30 only.

SOLUTIONS TO FRIDAY'S PUZZLES

SUDOKU

7	5	6	8	1	4	9	2	3
2	8	9	7	3	6	4	5	1
1	4	3	2	5	9	6	7	8
4	1	2	3	6	7	8	9	5
9	7	5	4	2	8	1	3	6
6	3	8	5	9	1	2	4	7
8	9	7	6	4	3	5	1	2
3	2	1	9	8	5	7	6	4
5	6	4	1	7	2	3	8	9

WORD SEARCH

Missing: DAVIDE

K	I	G	M	F	F	X	Q	L
S	P	H	O	T	X	E	W	L
I	N	A	D	I	L	M	U	I
H	M	Y	A	K	I	O	S	V
U	S	N	I	K	E	L	V	I
A	M	B	E	R	L	L	L	A
C	T	Y	L	T	B	Y	G	B
J	A	V	E	R	A	M	X	U
K	S	R	I	X	A	E	O	E
N	B	T	A	P	N	E	O	E
R	G	E	R	O	N	Y	K	

NINE TO FIVE

P	T	A
P	A	R
S	P	I
T	A	C
L	E	R

CAPACITOR

HIDATO

12	14	15	8	7	18	19
66	11	13	9	16	17	6
65	67	10	1	77	76	5
64	62	68	2	75	4	28
63	60	61	69	3	74	73
59	55	54	70	71	72	41
58	56	51	53	37	39	40
57	50	49	52	38	36	43
46	47	46	45	44	35	34

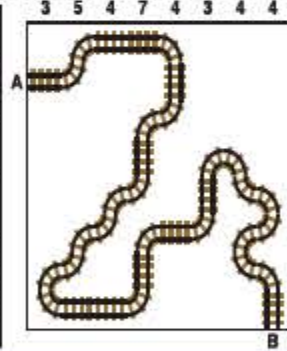
CROSS NUMBER

3	3	3	1	10
3	2	1	2	8
3	1	2	2	8
9	7	9	9	34
18	13	15	14	16

KAKURO

6	8	7	9	6	6	8
8	9	5	7	3	8	9
9	7	5	8	4	8	9
6	8	1	2	2	1	6
8	9	6	8	9	6	8
9	7	3	8	8	4	9
2	6	1	2	1	2	1
8	7	4	9	2	3	1
5	9	7	3	5	4	2
9	8	4	1	3	3	1

TRAIN TRACKS



30-SECOND CHALLENGE

www.30secondchallenge.com

START on left with number given and follow instructions as you go across. In 30 seconds, beginners have to complete their own challenge; intermediates have to complete their own challenge and the beginner's; advanced players have to complete their own challenge and the intermediate's. **SOLUTION BELOW**

	Beginner	15	÷3	TIMES ITSELF	×10	-60	1/2 OF IT	+13	÷9	×8	÷3	YOUR ANSWERS
Intermediate	70	4/5 OF IT	-12	×25	3/10 OF IT	50% OF IT	-3	2/9 OF IT	×11	13/99 OF IT		
Advanced	48	×2 3/8	5/6 OF IT	+40	7/9 OF IT	PLUS 40%	LESS 33 1/3%	+30	LESS 12 1/2%	37 1/2% OF IT		

KENKEN

1	2	3	4	5	6
4	1	6	5	3	2
5	3	2	6	1	4
3	4	1	2	6	5
2	6	4	1	5	3
6	5	3	4	2	1

SUDOKU X

4	1	5	3	6	2
3	2	6	1	4	5
5	4	1	6	2	3
2	6	3	5	1	4
6	5	2	4	3	1
1	3	4	2	5	6

GOGEN

B	T	S	O	J
V	O	C	U	K
G	A	R	I	X
W	M	L	Y	D
N	F	P	E	H

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD No. 16,934

ACROSS: 1 Hesitant. 5 Duff up. 9 Mitigate. 10 Pirate. 12 Germ. 13 Eucalyptus. 15 Grappling iron. 19 Drinking water. 23 Peach Melba. 25 Open. 28 Ibises. 29 Filigree. 30 Entrap. 31 Decipher. DOWN: 1 Homage. 2 Satyr. 3 Togo. 4 No-trump. 6 Unity. 7 Flatterer. 8 Pressing. 11 Sari. 14 Sack. 15 Guitarist. 16 Lug. 17 Gate. 18 Adaptive. 20 Noel. 21 Website. 22 In gear. 24 Hyena. 26 Perch. 27 Kiwi. **MAILWORD** ACROSS: 1 Rags. 5 Spuds. 10 Ecu. 11 Mafia. 12 Aruba. 14 Agony. 15 Gym. 16 Pure. 18 Alb. 19 Astral. 22 Nil. 23 Run. 24 Lid. 26 Centre. 28 Eke. 29 Imps. 30 Wet. 31 Caste. 34 Slime. 36 U-turn. 37 Afar. 38 Emmet. 39 Beds. DOWN: 1 Reagan. 2 Acrylic. 3 Grumble. 4 Sub. 5 Smartness. 6 Pager. 7 UFO. 8 Din. 9 Say. 13 Apartment. 17 Usurp. 20 Alewife. 21 Like mad. 25 Deters. 27 Nitre. 31 Cue. 32 ATM. 33 Sum. 35 Lab.

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE CROSSWORD — ACROSS: 6 Maple. 7 Atkinson. 10 Harlech. 11 Turkish. 12 Curtain. 13 Brendan. 14 Battle royal. 19 Riddler. 21 Incense. 23 Synapse. 25 Gesture. 26 Parabola. *

SOLUTIONS TO TODAY'S PUZZLES

QUICK QUIZ:

- 1 Asia. 2 The Jam. 3 Jean Smart. 4 Basketball. 5 Geocaching.

MINDBENDER:

118. 2 They may all precede pie. 3 Austria-Hungary. 4 Nicholas Nickleby, by Charles Dickens; the others are by George Eliot. 5 Ipswich (I-P-S-W-I-C-H).

MASTERQUIZ:

- 1 Fruit. 2 Victor Gollancz. 3 North Dakota. 4 Canada. 5 Robert H. Goddard. 6 B3 (niacin).

HONEYCOMB:

- 1 Modest. 2 Domain. 3 Nimble. 4 Barrel. 5 Errand. 6 Narrow. 7 Worked. 8 Kettle. 9 Tassel. 10 Stores. 11 Renege. 12 Enacts.

KUROSU:

X	O	X	X	O
X	O	X	O	X
O	X	O	X	O
X	O	X	O	X
O	X	X	O	X
O	X	X	O	X

30-SECOND CHALLENGE: Beginner: 32. Intermediate: 52. Advanced: 42.

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